
CCT
Columbia College Today
Fall 2017
JENNY SLATE '04
THE LANDLINE ACTRESS GOES TO HER ROOM
PATRICIA KITCHER
THIS YEAR'S GREAT TEACHER ON THE VALUE OF THE CORE
THE BIG "C"
HOW DID IT GET THERE, ANYWAY?
STAR POWER
After a turn as Aaron Burr — and a moment in the hot seat — **Brandon Victor Dixon '03** continues to dazzle on and off Broadway



save the date!

REUNION 2018

THURSDAY, MAY 31 – SATURDAY, JUNE 2

If your class year ends in 3 or 8, save the date for Reunion 2018, a chance to reconnect with classmates and friends on campus and throughout New York City.

college.columbia.edu/alumni/reunion2018

COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Contents



features

12

Star Power

After a turn as Aaron Burr — and a moment in the hot seat — Brandon Victor Dixon '03 continues to dazzle on and off Broadway.

By Yelena Shuster '09

18

First, Aid

Margaret Traub '88 experiences "the best and worst humanity has to offer, side by side," doing on-the-ground disaster relief.

By Atossa Araxia Abrahamian '08, JRN'11

24

Core Values

This year's Great Teacher, Patricia Kitcher, on the enduring importance of Contemporary Civilization.

By Jill C. Shomer

Cover: Photograph by Jörg Meyer

CCT | Columbia College Today

VOLUME 45 NUMBER 1
FALL 2017

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Alexis Boncy SOA'11

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Lisa Palladino

DEPUTY EDITOR
Jill C. Shomer

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09

FORUM EDITOR
Rose Kernochan BC'82

ART DIRECTOR
Eson Chan

Published quarterly by the Columbia College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development for alumni, students, faculty, parents and friends of Columbia College.

ASSOCIATE DEAN, COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS
Bernice Tsai '96

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 4th Fl.
New York, NY 10025
212-851-7852

EMAIL
cct@columbia.edu

WEB
college.columbia.edu/cct

ISSN 0572-7820

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not reflect official positions of Columbia College or Columbia University.

© 2017 Columbia College Today
All rights reserved.

MIX
Paper from responsible sources
FSC® C022085

Contents

departments

3 Within the Family
Making Class Notes even more noteworthy.
By Alexis Boncy SOA'11

4 Message from Dean James J. Valentini
Every College experience is an opportunity for students' personal development.

5 Around the Quads
Jonathan S. Lavine '88 to receive the 2017 Alexander Hamilton Medal.

9 Roar, Lion, Roar
Coach Al Bagnoli cautiously optimistic going into his third season; the origin story of the Big "C."

28 Columbia Forum: *About the House*
Actress Jenny Slate '04 and her father welcome readers into their (haunted!) family home.

Like Columbia College Alumni
facebook.com/alumnicc

View Columbia College Alumni photos
instagram.com/alumniofcolumbiacollege

Follow **@Columbia_CCAA**

Join the Columbia College Alumni network
college.columbia.edu/alumni/linkedin

*alumni*news

34 Message from CCAA President Michael Behringer '89
Greetings from the alumni association's newest president.

35 Alumni in the News

36 Lions
Julie Jacobs Menin '89; Kenneth Wray '77, GSAPP'91; Ian Rapoport '02

40 Bookshelf
Worth It: Your Life, Your Money, Your Terms by Amanda Steinberg '99

42 Class Notes
Alumni Sons and Daughters; Just Married!

84 Obituaries
Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, GSAS'53; Norman Dorsen '50

88 Alumni Corner
After a father declares the College "off limits," the son attends — and writes an award-winning poem.
By Jeffrey Harrison '80

Get "The Latest" at CCT Online

CCT

TAKE FIVE | SEPTEMBER 8

"I roomed on the top floor of Furnald Hall with two other would-be Naval Reserve officers. That experience became an early chapter of *The Caine Mutiny*."

— Herman Wouk '34

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? | SEPTEMBER 18

"When I build a house for someone, it's going to withstand whatever took down their old house."

— Jon Ross '83, founder of MicroAid International, a post-disaster recovery organization

LION'S DEN | SEPTEMBER 14

"The *Voice* had broken ground as a place where people of color, LGBTs and the counterculture were welcome to take center stage and address important sociopolitical topics as seen through a personal lens."

— Michael Musto '76, from "*Village Voice* Print Edition, RIP"

college.columbia.edu/cct



JÖRG MEYER

Within the Family

Making Class Notes More Noteworthy

Of all the lessons that come from editing *Columbia College Today*, the most inviolable is that when an issue arrives, most readers' first stop will be Class Notes. That compendium of personal news and anecdotes is the best-read part of our magazine; alumni tell us so in letters and conversation, and our surveys confirm it. The section sounds a veritable clarion call: Come see what your friends and classmates have done lately.

Through the years I've surveyed quite a few alumni magazines, and I have no doubt that *CCT* features one of the largest — quite possibly, *the* largest — Class Notes section. It accounts for about half of our pages, 77 columns from 1941 to 2017, a whopping 46,000 words per issue.

The constraints are few. Class Notes writers are allotted a healthy word count per column (1,500, though admittedly, some of our stalwart correspondents would like to have more) and a democratic approach to inclusion. They are the place to share what's happening in your life, in your own words, with your class. And not just your class, because the fact is, most readers skip through the years, stopping when they see a name they recognize or a tidbit catches the eye. Serendipity is part of the fun. There are reports of job changes and graduations; kudos of all kinds; marriage and birth announcements; outpourings of familial pride; accounts of hobbies, travel and retirement; bids to join Reunion Committees and dispatches from the event itself. Memories and jokes are freely traded, as are a few tall tales. Deaths are mourned. On occasion, poetry is written.

Actually, the section as a whole is a kind of poetry — the story of so many lives, marked by a common bond, unfolding in countless ways that are familiar and yet each their own. The everyday is made extraordinary by our attention to these details, and our resolution to write them down.

Looking ahead, however, Class Notes faces a challenge as we march deeper into the Digital Age. Flip through the section and you can see it: Starting in the 1990s, the columns get progressively shorter. There are exceptions, but the trend is unmistakable. It makes sense considering the way we communicate today, in bits and bursts on social media platforms like Facebook. Millennials especially are in the habit of sharing there and on Instagram, Twitter and Snapchat, and quite possibly somewhere else by the time you read this. To write a letter or email with personal updates is far from their default setting.

With each year, we've also morphed into an increasingly visual lot. Most everyone has a smartphone camera in their pocket. Shoot and post — as the saying goes, a picture tells a thousand words. And those of us scrolling through our feeds have come to crave that visual connection.

So how can Class Notes continue to be a place for all our alumni to share their news, however they prefer to communicate? It's a question



we've pondered for some time, and one answer is: more photos. Yes, we've always printed them in our Class Notes pages, but we know the number doesn't nearly reflect all your snap-happy habits. Starting this issue, we aim to change that — to publish more of your photos, so that Class Notes reflects more fully the community that you are today, and so that it feels as alive with images as it does with voices.

Please, consider this your call: Send pictures. We'll showcase them throughout the section and, for our Lion weddings, in our new Just Married! section (page 78). As with written Class Notes, the constraints are few: for a Class Notes photo, at least two alumni must be present; for a wedding photo, one member of the couple must be a College alum; and we need a little something about what you're doing and who's with you for the caption.

Meanwhile, led by the section's superintendent, *CCT* Associate Editor Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09, we'll continue to seek ways to evolve Class Notes. And while we're on the subject, a thank you is in order for our class correspondents — for all their service and dedication, and for rising to the challenge of changing with us.

Finally, if you haven't sent a Class Note in a while — or ever — I hope you'll do so (college.columbia.edu/cct/contact-us). Your classmates want to hear from you, and so do we.

Alexis Boncy

Alexis Boncy SOA'11
Editor-in-Chief

Message from the Dean

A Time for Growth and Development

In this issue, Patricia Kitcher, the Roberta and William Campbell Professor of the Humanities and the Carnoy Family Program Chair for Contemporary Civilization, talks about the continued relevance of Contemporary Civilization in today's world.

Kitcher says that the Core Curriculum is not only about developing knowledge and understanding concepts like justice, fairness and responsibility, but also about learning to think through complex issues and to approach problems in imaginative ways. As she says: "It helps to approach a problem as Aristotle would, or think about a problem as Mill would, because now you have a way to be in the world thinking about things. Reading a lot of very insightful people, you can understand a lot of what's going on."

Our role at Columbia College is to prepare students to succeed in the world of today and in the world far into the future — a future that neither we, nor they, can know or imagine. We bring together a community of students who are diverse in every respect so they can engage with ideas and perspectives that are different from their own, ideas and perspectives they may not be comfortable with, ideas and perspectives about which they may have been unaware. And through the Core, as well as other coursework, research, internships, global opportunities, extracurricular experiences and residential life, we're helping students develop skills, competencies and capacities that will benefit them in every stage of their lives.

This means not only helping students develop knowledge, understanding, insight and empathy, but also providing opportunities for them to develop their critical thinking and research abilities; to hone their written and oral communication skills; to improve their quantitative, information and technological literacy; to engage in teamwork and collaboration; to expand their creativity and innovation; to take on civic and individual responsibility; to participate in community engagement and inclusion; and to build global awareness and a sense of wellness and resiliency.

Every class, every extracurricular activity, every internship, every residential experience, every research opportunity, every conversation and every interaction at Columbia helps our students grow personally, professionally and as citizens of the world. And our goal isn't just for students to develop skills, capacities and capabilities, but also to understand how they developed them, where they developed them and how their experiences fit in with their entire Columbia College journey.



MICHAEL EDMONSON '20

Students from the Class of 2021 and their families participated in a welcome reception with Dean James J. Valentini.

As students returned to campus this fall, we encouraged them to meet with advisers, program coordinators and mentors to reflect on their summer experiences; to identify what they liked, what they didn't, what they were good at and what they weren't; and to talk about how their experiences fit in with their journey. We want them to think of their College journey as a time for growth and development. And we want them all to realize that no two of their journeys will be the same.

We hope you, too, take the time to reflect on the skills, competencies and capacities you gained at Columbia College — what you learned, how you learned it and where you learned it. And we hope you will be willing to connect with current students through our mentoring programs — including the newly launched Odyssey Mentoring Program (odyssey.college.columbia.edu) — to encourage them to reflect on their experiences here and to help them make the most of what they are learning and doing, inside and outside of the classroom, benefiting from your hindsight and real-world wisdom.



James J. Valentini
Dean

College's Top Honor Goes to Jonathan S. Lavine '88

The 2017 Alexander Hamilton Medal will be presented to Jonathan S. Lavine '88, a dedicated philanthropist, particularly to Columbia causes, and an executive with Bain Capital and Bain Capital Credit.

The medal, given annually at the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner, is the highest honor awarded to a member of the College community. Presented by the Columbia College Alumni Association, Dean James J. Valentini and President Lee C. Bollinger, it recognizes distinguished service to the College and accomplishment in any field of endeavor.

This year's dinner will take place in Low Rotunda on Thursday, November 16. Proceeds from the black-tie event directly benefit College students by supporting the priorities of the College, including the Core Curriculum and financial aid.

Lavine is a co-chair of the University Trustees, the College's Core to Commencement campaign and the University's Columbia Commitment campaign. He is a co-managing partner of Bain Capital, one of the world's leading private, multi-asset alternative investment firms, and CIO of Bain Capital Credit, which he founded in 1998 as Sankaty Advisors, a division of Bain Capital. Lavine began his career at Drexel Burnham Lambert in mergers and acquisitions and was a consultant at McKinsey & Co. before joining Bain Capital in 1993.

Lavine graduated from the College Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude and earned an M.B.A with Distinction from Harvard Business School. While at Columbia, he was on the Varsity Golf Team and received the David B. Truman Alumni Award for outstanding contribution to the academic affairs of the College. As an alumnus, he has received the Dean's Leadership Award for the Class of 1988's 25th reunion, a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement and Columbia/Barnard Hillel's Seixas Award.

A longtime supporter of critical initiatives across the College and University, including financial aid, student life and faculty support, Lavine sat on the College's Board of Visitors 2003–12 and was its chair 2008–12. In 2011, he co-created the Lavine-Lenfest Matching Fund to provide ongoing support for non-tenured Core Curriculum faculty.

A member of the Boston Celtics' ownership group, where he is a director, Lavine also chairs the National Board of Trustees of City Year, which focuses on stemming the high school dropout rate in urban centers across the United States. In 2007, he and his wife, Jeannie, the parents of Allison '16 and Emily '18, formed the Crimson Lion Foundation, which delivers financial resources to a variety of nonprofits focused on leveling the playing field for individuals and families, with an emphasis on access to quality educational opportunities and addressing economic inequality. In 2011, they endowed the Lavine Family Humanitarian Studies Initiative at the Harvard School of Public Health and in 2015, they dedicated the Lavine



Family Center for College Affordability at uAspire, which focuses on providing financial resources for postsecondary education.

Lavine also sits on the boards of Boston Children's Hospital Trust and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and supports organizations including Columbia/Barnard Hillel, ADL, Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Boston, Hebrew Union College and American Jewish World Service. In 2016, he was appointed a member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Council by President Barack Obama '83.

For more information on the Hamilton Dinner, go to college.columbia.edu/alumni/events/hamilton/2017 or contact College Events and Programs: ccaa-events@columbia.edu or 212-851-7846.



Thank you for supporting your alumni magazine!

Columbia College Today thanks the alumni, parents, friends and organizations/foundations who generously donated during Fiscal Year 2017. To view the list of FY17 donors, please visit college.columbia.edu/cct. If you would like to give to *CCT* during FY18, please visit college.columbia.edu/cct/giving.



COURTESY COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL

Did*You*Know?

One of NYC's Largest Statues Lives at Columbia

Jacques Lipchitz's *Bellerophon Taming Pegasus*, commissioned by the Law School in 1964 and installed above the west entrance of Jerome Greene Hall in 1977, is a sight to behold. The bronze work measures approximately 30 x 28 ft., rests atop a 27-ft. pedestal and weighs 23 tons. At installation it was the second-largest metal sculpture in New York City — behind only the Statue of Liberty!

Young Alumni Service Award

Gairy Hall Jr. '11, BUS'16, a Class Agent and former president of Columbia College Young Alumni, has received the 2017 Gerald Sherwin '55 Young Alumni Service Award.

Hall has built a robust record of volunteerism since graduating. A member of the CCYA board since 2012, he led the organization 2016–17. He co-chaired the group's Career Committee 2014–16 and proved instrumental in revitalizing and strengthening its relationship with the Center for Career Education. Hall also sat on the Columbia College Alumni Association's Service & Philanthropy Committee 2014–17.

He served on both the planning and fundraising committees for his class' five-year reunion and was a member of the Alumni Representative Committee 2011–14. Today, as a Class Agent, Hall raises funds for current students from alumni peers.

Hall, who lives in London but plans to return to New York City this fall, is a management associate at JPMorgan Chase.

The Sherwin Award, established in 2013, goes annually to a graduate from the past 10 classes (2007–16) who has enhanced the community, well-being or engagement of the College's young alumni.

"What really sets Gairy apart," said Zila Acosta-Grimes '11, LAW'15, "is how amazingly available he is. He always makes time to mentor students, to proof a résumé for a friend or to attend a networking event a more experienced alum spent hours and hours planning. Columbia is lucky to have him."

Two College Alumni Join University's Board of Trustees

Alexander "Alex" Navab '87, a partner and former head of the Americas Private Equity business at Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co., and Li Lu '96, LAW'96, BUS'96, founding general partner at Himalaya Capital, have been elected to the Columbia University Board of Trustees.

"On behalf of the entire University, I am very pleased to welcome Alex Navab and Li Lu to the Board of Trustees," President Lee C. Bollinger said in a September 7 announcement. "They are loyal Columbia alumni who bring with them decades of success and innovation in business and civic leadership, as well as a diversity of personal experience that will be invaluable as we build the University's academic excellence and our engagement with the world in the years ahead."

Both men have been honored with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement; Navab in 2011 and Li Lu in 2012.

Earl Hall Nominated for National Register

A sixth Columbia building could be headed for landmark status.

Earl Hall, which sits west of Low Library, will be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places as part of the NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project. The emphasis will be on the building's significance in LGBT history, dating to the 1960s, when the school's groundbreaking gay student group found a home there.

The historic sites project — led by co-founders and directors Andrew Dolkart GSAPP'77, professor of historic preservation at the Architecture School; Ken Lustbader GSAPP'93; Jay Shockley GSAPP'80; and staff member Amanda Davis GSAPP'06 — seeks to identify, document and record sites of LGBT significance before 2000. Five-hundred sites have already been identified, and 100 are mapped on the group's website (nyclgbtsites.org).

Columbia was the first institution of higher education in the world to have a gay student group, The Student Homophile League, founded in 1966 by "Stephen Donaldson," the alias of Robert Martin '69. The University's then-chaplain, the Rev. John Cannon, was supportive and gave the group space in Earl Hall to gather.

Columbia's Committee on Student Organizations approved the Homophile League on April 19, 1967, and Martin immediately sent a press release to local media outlets. On May 3, 1967, *The New York Times* put the story of the University's gay group on its front page, to the chagrin of the administration. In 1970, the Homophile League's successor group, Gay People at Columbia-Barnard, began holding dances in Earl Hall on the first Friday of every month — the first of its kind at any school. The dances were open to the public and became popular with students and non-students. "I'm sorry to say that I never went to one; I was too shy," Dolkart says.

Dolkart and the other founders will submit a proposal for identifying Earl Hall's significance to New York's State Historic Preservation Office this fall; after review a recommendation will be made and, if approved, the building will be listed on the New York State Register of Historic Places. The Department of the Interior will then review for the National Register.

Columbia buildings already on the National Register are Pupin Hall (added in 1966), Casa Italiana (added in 1982), Low Library (added in 1987) and Philosophy Hall (added in 2003). St. Paul's Chapel was listed on the State Register in 1978.

Any alumnus/a who attended a dance at Earl Hall and would like to be interviewed for this project can contact Dolkart: asd3@columbia.edu.



1974 COLUMBIAN

Sign o' the times: *Alma Mater* points the way to the party in this 1974 photo.



Shreyas Manohar '18 performs a stand-up comedy routine at the Postcrypt Coffeehouse.

JAMES KOLSBY SEAS'19

Shreyas Manohar '18

By Nathalie Alonso '08

Shreyas Manohar '18 was honored with a 2017 King's Crown Leadership Award for "Columbia Spirit." His contribution to the University community? Tickling its funny bone.

Since Fall 2015, Manohar has hosted a series of stand-up comedy shows he calls Sso-lol (a play on the acronym for Student Services Online) that features a lineup of comedians from Columbia and around New York City and draws from campus life as source material. Most of the approximately 20 shows he's hosted to date — he tries to organize two or three a month — have taken place at the Postcrypt Coffeehouse. A few have been held at the Austin E. Quigley Theatre in Lerner Hall, including one during the Spring 2017 semester.

Manohar — who previously produced and appeared in *CU NOW,* a YouTube series that satirized Columbia life — believes stand-up comedy goes "hand in hand" with the College's tradition of "dissent, never bowing down to authority and questioning everything." Yet he also sees his art as a way to combat stress. "People at Columbia need to laugh," says Manohar, who was a member of the 122nd *Varsity Show* cast and one of two social chairs for *V123*. "There are many stressful things happening. Everyone is thinking about the world. I think everyone could use a laugh."

Manohar is also part of what he describes as an emerging comedy scene in India. He has spent the last three summers in Mumbai as a writing intern with All India Bakchod, a sketch group with almost 2.6 million subscribers on YouTube. AIB uses subversive humor and satire to address controversial topics — an increasingly risky thing to do in India in light of crackdowns on freedom of expression. This past summer, on nights when he wasn't testing new jokes at an open mic, Manohar opened for comedians in and around Mumbai.

"Because the scene is still so new, I feel that what I do matters," says Manohar about performing in India. "Every open mic changes the scene in some small way. Every new joke you do takes the scene forward."

Manohar's love of comedy grew out of his experience as a cricket commentator in India, a hobby he picked up in eighth grade that turned into paid gigs. (He says he commented on about 500 matches on television and radio in a span of four years.) In high school, he began doing stand-up comedy at the Canvas Laugh Club in Mumbai. Since he's been at the College, Manohar has performed at New York City venues such as the Gotham Comedy Club, the Broadway Comedy Club and the New York Comedy Club, as well as The Creek & The Cave in Queens.

Manohar plans to stay in New York City after graduation and envisions himself writing for magazines or television. He wouldn't mind becoming the next Jon Stewart or Stephen Colbert in the process. "My dream is to have a news comedy show of my own," he says.

fast facts

HOMETOWN: Nagpur, India

MAJORS: Creative writing, English

CLUBS: Columbia College Student Ambassadors, *Spectator*, Latenite Theatre, *Varsity Show*

Nathalie Alonso '08, *from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website.*

ROAR, LION, ROAR

Bagnoli Cautiously Optimistic in His Third Season

By Alex Sachare '71

Al Bagnoli has seen enough football in 36 years as a head coach to know not to set the bar too high. So it was no surprise that he didn't predict an Ivy League championship as he headed into his third season at Columbia.

Bagnoli chose the phrase "cautiously optimistic" during an interview this past summer to describe the Lions' prospects for the 2017 season, which began with a non-conference game against Wagner on September 16. Columbia started Ivy play on September 30 at Princeton, with Homecoming scheduled against Penn on October 14 at Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium (college.columbia.edu/alumni/events/homecoming-2017).

"As we enter year three, we probably have more depth and more positional competition," said Bagnoli, who won nine Ivy championships during his 23-year tenure at Penn and is one of the winningest coaches in NCAA Football Championship Subdivision history with a career record of 242–119. "We have a lot of returning kids with playing time under their belts and we're optimistic about the progress made in the offseason with our strength and conditioning. For the first time we had an indoor practice facility where we can now practice year-round, which I thought was huge."

Columbia compiled a 3–7 record last season, but five of its losses came by an average of just 4.8 points. Bagnoli has now had a chance to welcome two full recruiting classes and beef up a roster that as of September 1 listed 26 players weighing 270 lbs. or more. "Our players, when we inherited them, were tall and lean," he said. "They weren't as stout, especially on the offensive and defensive lines, as you would need them to be. We've addressed those issues." Among the Lions' veteran linemen are Bewley Wales '18, Charlie Flores '18, Tyler Schonewolf '19 and Markham Paukune '18 on offense and Lord Hyeamang '18 and Dominic Perkovic '18 on defense.

Anders Hill '18 passed for 284 yards and three touchdowns against Cornell.





MIKE MCLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Placekicker Oren Milstein '20 made all but one attempt a year ago.

How much progress Columbia makes this season likely will depend on the play of quarterback Anders Hill '18, who stepped into the starting job midway through last season. "He is unquestionably the leader of our offense," said Bagnoli. "He's a big, strong, physical kid who can make all the throws, and I think he can be a threat running the ball. We're hopeful that he can continue his growth and optimistic that he can take the next step to be an elite player in this league."

Among Hill's targets are a trio of wide receivers — Josh Wainwright '20, Ronald Smith SEAS'20 and Christian Everett '20. "The goal last year was to try to get some more explosive playmakers on the outside," said Bagnoli. "Now I think we're much more experienced at the skilled positions."

Another key player for the Lions is placekicker Oren Milstein '20, who was a unanimous All-Ivy First Team selection as a freshman after converting 12 of 13 field goal attempts and all 16 point after touchdown attempts. Milstein led the Lions in scoring last season with 52 points and kicked two game-winning field goals.

Asked to describe the state of the program, Bagnoli said, "We're doing the right things and we're making progress. The attitude and culture of the program have significantly changed. The players have been awesome, they've worked really hard and they've bought into our vision of what we're trying to do. Our whole goal was to make football enjoyable again. I think we're on schedule."

ROAR!

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit **gocolumbialions.com.**



PHYLLIS KATZ

Oh, Say Can You "C"?

Bold, blue and not quite legal, a grand design looms in Columbia history

By Thomas Vinciguerra '85, JRN'86, GSAS'90

For detractors, it is the biggest piece of graffito in New York. But for those who bleed Light Blue, it is a bold and literal proclamation, a marker of pure Columbia spirit. It's the famed Big "C" — the huge painted initial letter of alma mater's name, impossible not to see from the stands at Baker Field (officially, Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium) as it adorns a cliff on the Harlem River at Spuyten Duyvil.

"A monumental sign of athletic intimidation," wrote Kevin Lotery '05 in *Spectator* in 2002, "it says to all visiting teams, 'Welcome to our house.'" Visible to decades of jocks and spectators alike, the 60 x 60-ft. blue icon, outlined in white, is so grand that you might think it's been around since time immemorial.

Actually, the insignia has a traceable and fairly recent history, appropriately trimmed with a bit of hazy lore.

The "C" began life at the Poughkeepsie Regatta, the annual championship of the Intercollegiate Rowing Association. Columbia, a founding IRA member, once had its own boathouse on "Regatta Row" at Poughkeepsie, and its crew — along with its competitors — would traditionally tag a portion of the western Hudson shore with the school letter.

Things changed, however, in 1949 when the IRA moved the regatta from Poughkeepsie to Marietta, Ohio. While the tagging reportedly continued in the new location, it wasn't quite the same. And so in fall 1952, two senior rowers hatched a scheme.

"I kept looking at that rock and saying, 'Boy, that spot would make a beautiful place for a Columbia 'C,'" heavyweight stroke Donald Fagan '53, BUS'58 recalled this past summer. "We were looking for notoriety."

Fagan's partner in bicolor crime was coxswain and captain Robert Prendergast '53, who said he "painted it in my head," down to the approximately 12-ft. width of each of its elements.

The pair began executing their masterpiece from the bottom up, making sure that the lower portion would not be obscured or degraded by the river's periodic rise. Through the Department of Buildings and Grounds, they secured several gallons of pigment. Boathouse manager "Pop" Johnson fashioned a boatswain's chair attached to what Fagan calls "a lifeline cable" at the top of the cliff, where the New York Central Railroad ran. He and Prendergast arrived at their canvas via a mahogany launch and took turns applying coats.

> *I kept looking at that rock and saying, "Boy, that spot would make a beautiful place for a Columbia 'C.'"*
>
> *— Donald Fagan '53, BUS'58*

"One of us would be in the launch and raise the other up," said Fagan. "The exciting thing was when the Circle Line came. Their wake would raise and lower the launch. So the guy in the boatswain's chair would go up and down."

Strictly speaking, was this whole business legal? As Prendergast remembers it, he wrote a letter to New York Central Railroad, requesting permission to execute the stunt. He received a reply in the affirmative, the authorities effectively saying, "You can paint it,

but we're not to blame." And while their machinations attracted the police on the first day of painting, they ultimately left without confrontation. "We never heard from anyone," Fagan said.

Prendergast and Fagan had hoped to complete their outdoor art before graduating. But the project was too ambitious; when winter set in, the duo abandoned their labors. They had managed to execute perhaps 50 percent of the "C," namely the bottom portion and about half of the vertical leg.

"It was unfortunate," said Prendergast, "but I figured somebody else would take over."

He was right, but memories differ on when the final brush stroke was applied. Work was still in progress when Art Delmhorst '60, BUS'64 rowed lightweight. But Tom Gualtieri '65, PS'69, also on lightweight, remembers that the "C" was done by the time he arrived in 1961.

Since then, the "C" has been touched up every few years by crew members, with the exception of one major interregnum. It followed an accident, on February 23, 1976, when lightweight crewmember Steven Abbey '78 drowned after his shell was swamped. Suddenly, safety became a serious concern.

"Somebody at the University said, 'What about liability? What about insurance?'" said former Director of Sports Information William Steinman. "And that ended the painting." As a result, the bold blue of the "C" dwindled to a light gray. At least one Circle Line operator reportedly told the assembled, "Like Columbia football, it's fading fast."

Then, in October 1985, heavyweight bow Dan Eiref SEAS'86 decided to rectify matters. He fashioned a triangle-shaped jig — essentially a wooden bench with rope on either side — "and just lowered people off the top and hoped for the best." The ropes, Eiref said, were attached to iron bars jutting from the top of the rock face, "probably left over from when it was blasted away by the Army Corps of Engineers a century ago."

Eiref and some compatriots secured $300 from Director of Athletics Al Paul GSAS'55 and bought 20 gallons of paint. Though Eiref himself didn't paint — "I was too chicken to go down" — the process progressed with few mishaps over the course of three weekends.

At one point, freshman James Murphy '88 suggested that they tag their own tag by signing the painters' initials and the date "85." All concerned seemed amenable. But when they saw the size of Murphy's scrawl they slathered over it. Today, the white square is in effect a period, designating the "C" as an abbreviation.

On the whole, Eiref was satisfied with the result: "My biggest regret was buying latex paint. Oil would have lasted longer."

Though the restoration cheered many alumni and fans, there were exceptions. A photograph of the work in progress taken by *CCT* then-senior editor Phyllis Katz, which adorned the back cover of the Winter 1985–86 issue, drew an outraged response from Edward R. Green '79, SEAS'83. In a Letter to the Editor he called the enterprise an inherently dangerous "harebrained stunt."

Today the two men responsible for starting it all, Prendergast and Fagan, still take pride in their accomplishment. "I told Bob, 'We ought to get a brass plate and mount it there,'" Fagan said. "But I'm not as agile as I used to be."

Former CCT *acting editor* **Thomas Vinciguerra '85, JRN'86, GSAS'90** *is the author* of Cast of Characters: Wolcott Gibbs, E. B. White, James Thurber, and the Golden Age of *The New Yorker.*

HEADLINERS



Margaret Lu '17

FENCING: Margaret Lu '17, Nzingha Prescod '15 and Nicole Ross '13 helped the United States win a silver medal in the team foil event at the 2017 World Fencing Championships in Leipzig, Germany, on July 24. It was the best result for the U.S. women in world championships history. The U.S. squad beat Argentina and China in the first two rounds and edged Russia 45–42 in the semifinals before losing in the final round to Italy by a 45–25 margin. It was the Italians' sixth Senior World title in the last eight years.

Lu, who won Junior World medals with Prescod and U.S. National teammate Lee Kiefer, was thrilled by winning silver at the Senior Worlds. "It's almost indescribable," she said. "It's huge. It's one of the biggest events in our sport in the world, so to get a silver medal here is great." Ross, who competed in the 2012 London Olympics, echoed that sentiment, saying, "We've been working on beating these top teams for a long time and it was very gratifying to have it come together."

Prescod, a two-time Olympian, was a late addition to the team after Sabrina Massialas was injured in the individual competition. "I was at orientation in Atlanta for my new job at Ernst & Young for six days, so I was mostly concerned about what my bosses would say on my first week leaving to go to a fencing competition," Prescod said with a laugh.



Katie Meili '13

SWIMMING: Katie Meili '13, who won a bronze medal at the Rio Olympics a year ago, won the silver medal in the 100m breaststroke at the 2017 World Swimming Championships in Budapest on July 25. Olympic gold medalist Lilly King of the United States won the event in a world record time of 1:04.13, but Meili rallied in the final strokes to edge Olympic silver medalist Yuliya Efimova of Russia for the silver medal, finishing in 1:05.03 to Efimova's 1:05.05.

Jessica Antiles '19 won a silver medal in the 400m individual medley and a bronze medal in the 200m individual medley, both at the 2017 Maccabiah Games, a quadrennial, international Jewish and Israeli multi-sport event held July 4–18 in Israel. In addition, Antiles finished fourth in the 200m backstroke and 100m breaststroke.

ARCHERY: Christine Kim '20 won the gold medal in the junior recurve and Sophia Strachan '20 won the bronze medal in the junior compound in the U.S. National Target Championships August 4–6 in Westfield, Ind. Kim defeated Gwendolynn Murphy 6–4 in the final of the junior recurve while Strachan edged Samantha Taylor 144–142 for third place in the final of the junior compound.



Brandon Victor Dixon '03 backstage at the Signature Theater, before rehearsals for *F**king A*.



STAR POWER

After a turn as Aaron Burr — and a moment in the hot seat — **Brandon Victor Dixon '03** continues to dazzle on and off Broadway

By Yelena Shuster '09

Photographs by Jörg Meyer



JOAN MARCUS

IT WAS 6 P.M. on an unseasonably warm Friday in November when Brandon Victor Dixon '03 got the call that would launch him onto the national stage.

The veteran actor was sitting in his usual booth at E&E Grill on West 49th Street when he learned that he would be delivering a message to Vice President-elect Mike Pence after that night's performance of *Hamilton*. It had been almost four months since Dixon replaced Leslie Odom Jr. as Aaron Burr in the mega-hit Broadway show about our Founding Fathers. It was only eight days after the election that inflamed an already divided country. And it was 15 hours before the President-elect would start tweeting about the speech that threw Dixon under his hottest spotlight yet.

The way Dixon tells it now, in between bites of fish tacos in the lobby of the Intercontinental New York Times Square, he wasn't nervous about addressing Pence: "He's just a man, and I mean, I knew something of what kind of person he was at that point. Individuals like that are not going to intimidate me."

At curtain call, Dixon's instinct — honed from 12 years on Broadway — told him that security would usher Pence out of the theater immediately after the show, so he stopped the cast's bows to make sure Pence heard him. "That bright, silvery spot of hair started to move with all those dark suits around him and I was like, 'Whoa, whoa, whoa,'" Dixon recalls.



COURTESY *VARIETY*

Dixon's infamous speech to VP-elect Mike Pence put him in the national spotlight and onto the cover of *Variety*'s January 2017 "Inauguration Issue."

The two-time Tony nominee began to improvise: "Vice President-elect Pence, I see you walking out, but I hope you will hear us just a few more moments," he said, before reacting to the chorus of boos emanating from the audience. "There's nothing to boo here, ladies and gentlemen, nothing to boo here. We're all sharing a story of love."

Pence stopped to listen, and with the audience at attention, Dixon took out a note written by the show's creator, Lin-Manuel Miranda, in collaboration with its producers, cast and crew. Dixon welcomed and thanked Pence for attending before continuing: "We are the diverse America who are alarmed and anxious your new administration will not protect us, our planet, our children, our parents, or defend us and uphold our inalienable rights. But we really hope this show has inspired you to uphold our American values and to work on behalf of all of us. All of us."

The Atlantic later described it as "one of the most publicized peaceful protests in theatrical history."

That night, Dixon fell asleep with no idea that he would soon become a social media sensation. He awoke to a flurry of texts from his friends — and triple the Twitter followers. President-elect Donald Trump had confronted him with a series of tweets, the first at 8:48 a.m.: "Our wonderful future V.P. Mike Pence was harassed last night at the theater by the cast of Hamilton, cameras blazing. This should not happen!"

Without getting out of bed, Dixon responded with the first thing that came to mind: "conversation is not harassment sir. And I appreciate @mike_pence for stopping to listen."

Dixon will never know for sure why the show's executive team selected him to give the speech. Maybe it was because his decade-plus stage experience made him the unofficial leader of the cast. Or because, as an activist for civil rights issues, he would bring a deeper meaning to the words. Perhaps it was because he speaks, even in normal conversation, as though he's reciting long, eloquent prose. Or maybe it's because he is cool, collected and gracious — enough to prop an iPhone recorder on his shoulder during an hour-long interview after the waiter declined to lower the hotel's blaring pop hits.

Whatever the reason, Dixon denies his newfound prominence (a *Variety* cover notwithstanding). "I'm only famous in Midtown," he jokes. And maybe he's right. The tourists sitting across from us seem unfazed. His shaved head, perfectly arched brows and eyes that narrow when he kids — which is often — are not yet recognizable.

But those in his orbit would beg to differ. "People are stopping him in the street all the time. It's terrible walk-



Not the same old song and dance: Dixon as Aaron Burr in *Hamilton*.

ing four blocks with him now," says Warren Adams, his friend and production partner. "He gets stopped and it's 'Thank you' and 'Thanks for speaking up for all of us.'"

As a child, Dixon knew he belonged onstage: "It's the same way I knew I had two hands and two feet." The Gaithersburg, Md., native won a scholarship to study at the British American Drama Academy in Oxford for his junior year of high school, and by senior year he'd been selected as a U.S. Presidential Scholar semifinalist.

He nabbed the lead role of Simba in the traveling tour of *The Lion King* at 21 and left Columbia his senior year. Not throwing away his shot paid off. The series of roles that followed cemented him as a star. His Harpo in *The Color Purple* earned him a 2006 Tony nomination, and his turn in the Off-Broadway *The Scottsboro Boys*, in 2010, garnered a slew of nominations including Drama Desk and Drama League Awards. (In 2014 he revisited the role for a production in London's West End and received an Olivier nomination.)

As a first-generation Jamaican-American — and the first generation on his father's side to go to college — Dixon made a point to earn his diploma, though. He finished his degree in 2007 and received Columbia's I.A.L. Diamond Award for Achievement in the Arts the same year.

Hamilton director Thomas Kail remembers Dixon's original *Scottsboro Boys* performance as the first time "where I really saw him in a very intimate setting, carry a show and be so fully integrated into an ensemble. That was probably my first full memory of 'Wow, who is this?' He was both commanding and compassionate, and he was someone who felt like he belonged on stage in a way that is rare."

Adams agrees that Dixon seemed destined for the theater. Before the two became production partners, they worked together on *Motown* (2013), where Dixon played the lead role of legendary music producer Berry Gordy Jr. Adams was impressed from day one: "Brandon's one of those people who walks in the room and a light goes on."

"People are stopping him in the street all the time. It's terrible walking four blocks with him now. He gets stopped and it's 'Thank you' and 'Thanks for speaking up for all of us.'"

Make no mistake: Dixon is also one of the hardest working. "He is probably the most prepared person I have ever worked with," Adams says. "Getting to

rehearsal, specifically the table read, people have their scripts. Brandon walked in off-book. So you'll have a 130-page script and every day, we'll make changes and create pages and we'll give him more, and by evening, he's off-book of those pages, too."

Known for his charismatic stage presence and seductive voice — *New York* magazine has called him "the lost member of Boyz II Men" — Dixon has been singled out in *The New York Times* for his "star power," singing with "passionate fervor" and "especially affecting" performances. His second Tony nomination came just last year, for playing ragtime pianist and composer Eubie Blake in *Shuffle Along, or, the Making of the Musical Sensation of 1921 and All That Followed.*

Dixon's impressive résumé put him on the *Hamilton* team's radar in the show's earliest development. He auditioned years ago for the workshop, but the main roles were already taken. "I got to know him in that context, as someone who got a chance to play in an audition and watched how he made really smart, fully realized choices walking into the room," says Kail. "From his dedication to the form to his ability to bring humanity to every role. He obviously has a tremendous talent."

"Brandon brought power, heat and passion to his work. Eight shows a week he managed to be both consistent and surprising."

Stepping into Burr's revolutionary boots last August was an anomaly for Dixon, who originated almost every other role in his career.

"It can mean a lot for someone in this industry to see you in something that is really well written and diverse," Dixon says. "One of the most extraordinary things about *Hamilton*, below the surface, is that it's a brilliant piece of generous work that now provides a lot of individuals of color — who don't often have a lot of opportunities to do diverse, rich work — the chance to do so, and the chance for people in the industry to see it."

Consider him seen. *The Washington Post*'s Alyssa Rosenberg praised the "wonderful humor" he brought to the role, and *Deadline*'s Jeremy Gerard described Dixon's "The Room Where It Happens," as "the show's most astonishing number." Bryan Terrell Clark, the show's current Washington, says: "Brandon brought power, heat and passion to his work. Eight shows a week he managed to be both consistent and surprising."

Dixon played his Burr as a trickster. "To have risen through the Army ranks so rapidly at a young age, driven his way through Princeton at a young age, and to rise through politics the way he did despite the internal [hatred] toward him means that Burr must have possessed a charm and a candor and an intelligence and a wit that would draw people to him. I used that."

Now the world's going to know Dixon's name. Having left *Hamilton* in August, Dixon has a recurring role on the Starz drama series *Power*, a guest starring role on NBC's *Gone* with Chris Noth and an album in the works. He's also finishing up an Off-Broadway run in the play *F**king A*, a modern retelling of *The Scarlet Letter*, in which Hester is on a quest to find her jailed son, played by Dixon.

Leaving a blockbuster Broadway musical for an untested Off-Broadway play might seem risky, but Dixon is excited by the transformation the new role requires. "What will it take for me to become this person? That draws me to things because I like picking up new skills to find a way to a character," he says. "The goal of the artist is to tell stories that will have an impact on people, that will bring people closer to a greater understanding of themselves and others."

At 36, Dixon is confident in his ability to interpret any character — no matter how beloved or Tony Award-winning. In fact, looking back, Dixon says playing Burr was "one of the easier problems that I've ever had." He does not mean to brag. Everything is relative, and the only reason for this current confidence, he says, is an existential crossroads he faced a few years earlier in his career. As he describes it (in dramatic fashion, he admits), he had a crisis of faith in 2014, found his way back in 2015 and was resurrected in 2016.

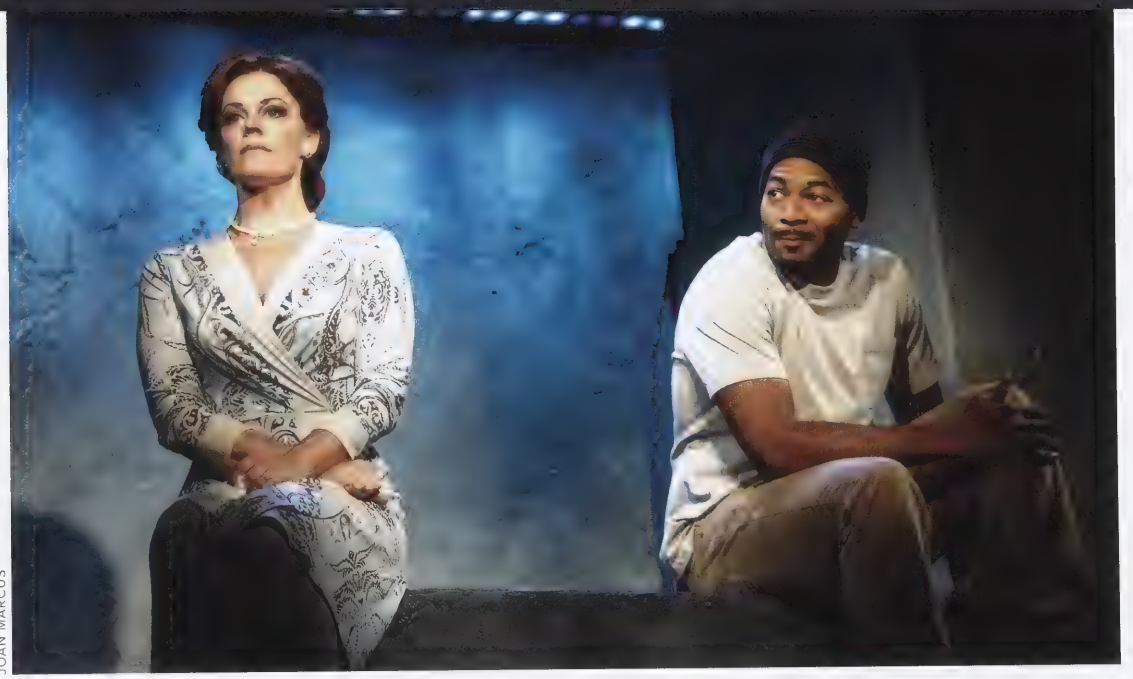
What happened in 2014 was *Motown*. The jukebox Broadway hit was produced and written by Gordy Jr., the Motown Records founder who launched the careers of icons like Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross and Michael Jackson — who happens to be Dixon's idol. Dixon was playing Berry. For Berry. No pressure.

Dixon began internalizing the magnitude of the job in front of him, hyperconscious of the greatness he had to both represent and manifest. "Berry Gordy, Doug Morris, the [co-producer and] head of Sony Music. These are the people who can change my life in a moment," Dixon recalls of his mindset. By the end of the process, if I'm not a star, it's because I'm not good enough. Because these people are star-makers."



COURTESY OF STARZ ENTERTAINMENT LLC

Dixon as attorney Terry Silver on *Power*, with co-star Naturi Naughton.



JOAN MARCUS

The New York Times said Dixon was "memorably" cast in *F**king A*; here, with Elizabeth Stanley.

So he didn't embellish. He didn't experiment. And then he judged himself for the outcome a year later — no nominations, no record deal, no TV role. "I played it safe because I was afraid of making mistakes," he says. "And if you perform afraid of making mistakes, you've lost already.

"The point of performing is to be ambitious," he adds, "to reach, to strive. Whether you achieve your goal or not, the beauty is in the endeavor. That's what people are here to see. They're not here to see perfection. They're here to see life, and life is rarely perfect."

Going to London later that year to play the lead in *The Scottsboro Boys* — a much smaller piece about the infamous trial of nine black teens who were wrongfully accused and imprisoned in the 1930s — grounded him.

"I went from this large-scale, Hollywood, Detroit-esque superstar expensive musical to a very cheap run on the West End, but with a group of teenagers who I had to help really understand the work itself and then understand how to do the work," he says. "It reoriented my 'why,' I guess: why I'm here, what I'm doing. And I just reopened my door to ambition and to experimentation and to the joy of performing."

Dixon's crisis changed him in more ways than one. During their *Motown* run, he and Adams founded the multimedia production company WalkRunFly. "We've worked on projects about James Brown, Sam Cooke and Ray Charles. The constant with all those individuals was the hope of ownership," Dixon says. "The importance of owning your own creativity. Control over your destiny."

A critical focus is developing early work by early-stage artists. "The idea was, if they're walking, we can help them run, and then they'll fly," Adams says. In addition to producing flashy musicals like *The Hunger Games* stage adaptation (and winning a Tony for producing *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* starring Neil Patrick Harris), Dixon and Adams are producing *Whorl Inside a Loop*, a play about a men's maximum-security prison. Their shared commitment to prison reform bonded the two when they met through a mutual friend 12 years ago. "It was really fantastic to meet somebody who was not just, 'Oh, I'm a performer, let's talk about Broadway,'" Adams says. "Brandon's an extremely intelligent person, and he has a vast knowledge of the world outside just entertainment."

For the multi-hyphenate activist-actor-producer, playing veep Aaron Burr — and addressing veep Mike Pence — are experiences that will stay with Dixon forever, he says: "What *Hamilton* allowed me to do is to extend my reach and speak to greater numbers of people and be able to look people in their eyes and say things like, 'Your voice matters, your potential is limitless,' and to say things like, 'We are greater together than we are apart,' and to say things like, 'You are not alone, as much as you may think that.'"

Dixon understands how blessed he is to speak on behalf of so many. "Warren and I have been fortunate enough where we can walk into certain rooms, and not everybody who does what we do can — not everybody who looks like we do can — and it is crucial that we create platforms for the people around us to walk through those doors," Dixon says. "You got to bring people with you, you know? It's imperative. We are our brother's keeper.

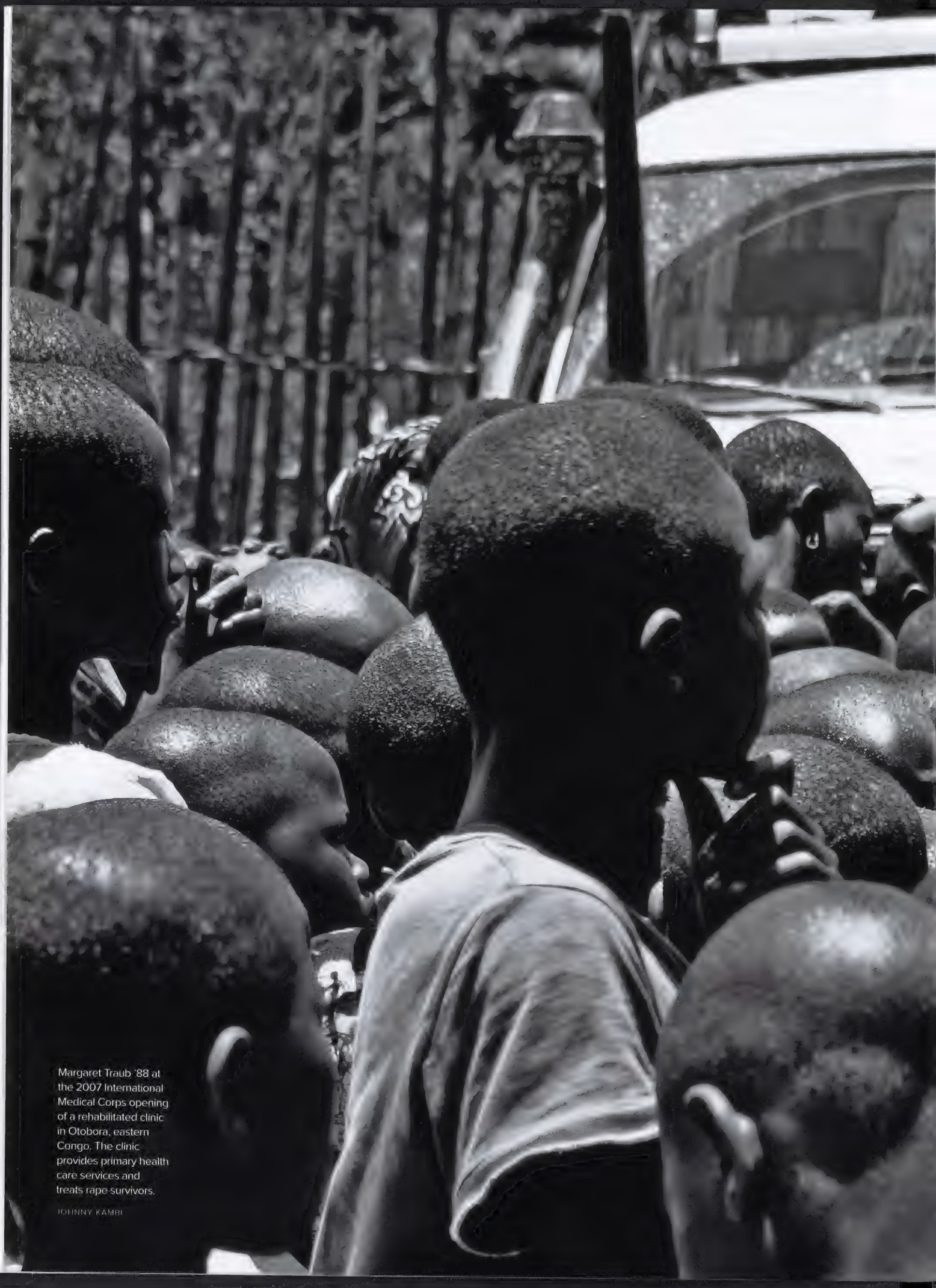
"If you are not working to create a space for somebody to live better, to find their dreams, to have a home, to create love in the world, to create a partnership with another individual, then you are wasting your time, you are wasting your money," he continues, voice rising. "Stacking money you're hoarding in a vault — that makes no sense."

With a mischievous grin, he adds: "This republic's probably only going to last another 20, 30 years. So while the dollar still can do something, you better spread that shit around."

GET THE LATEST

To see behind-the-scenes video (Brandon sings!) from our cover shoot, go to **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

Yelena Shuster '09 *has written for* The New York Times, Cosmopolitan, InStyle *and more. She runs TheAdmissions Guru.com, where she edits admissions essays for high school, college and graduate school applications.*



Margaret Traub '88 at the 2007 International Medical Corps opening of a rehabilitated clinic in Otobora, eastern Congo. The clinic provides primary health care services and treats rape survivors.

JOHNNY KAMBI



First, Aid

Margaret Traub '88 experiences "the best and worst humanity has to offer, side by side," doing on-the-ground disaster relief

By Atossa Araxia Abrahamian '08, JRN'11

Photographs by Margaret Traub '88

When news of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti broke, Margaret Traub '88 was sitting in a Los Angeles meeting room with her colleagues at International Medical Corps, where she was the nonprofit's head of global communications. She found out about the disaster via email, "and I knew right away how important it was," she recalls. "As the poorest nation in the Western hemisphere, their infrastructure would be devastated."

Traub cut the meeting short to begin gathering information, and it quickly became clear that IMC's emergency services would be crucial in Haiti's capital, which had been leveled by the magnitude 7 quake. The IMC, a humanitarian nonprofit founded by doctors and nurses in 1984, works in 30 countries administering healthcare, training local workers, and alleviating famine and poverty through both long-planned public health initiatives and short-notice relief work. Traub, a former journalist, was in charge of issuing public statements and communications about the organization's relief missions, so she quickly jumped into action.

"We discovered 200 people injured in the parking lot. I'm not a doctor, but I was helping triage and move people around, helping out however I could."

By 9 p.m., Traub was in midair, en route to D.C. She landed at Dulles at dawn; met up with her colleagues in operations, programs and security; flew to Miami; and, after some discussions about planning and logistics — Would it be possible to get to Haiti via the Dominican Republic? Were the airports open? What state were the roads in? — opted to fly direct. Her team claimed seats on the last connecting flight to Port-au-Prince.



A destroyed TV station in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, two days after the 2010 earthquake. International Medical Corps' Emergency Response Team was delivering relief within 24 hours of the quake.

It wouldn't be a stretch to say that Traub's career up until this point was a drawn-out prep session for this mission to Haiti. She'd spent more than a decade as a TV journalist, first at *Good Morning America*, then as an executive producer at CNN, so she was used to responding to events in faraway places. The pace of the news business is relentless, so the adrenaline rush that comes with thinking fast and moving quickly to deal with an emergency was familiar to her, too. Traveling to Haiti, albeit under such treacherous circumstances, was also meaningful on an intellectual level: as a senior at the College, Traub had written her political science thesis on the small Caribbean nation. "I'd always wanted to go there and when the earthquake happened and I was on the ground the following day, I remember thinking, 'I can't believe I'm finally coming to this country that I've studied for so long.'"

As prepared as she might have been on paper, the scale of the devastation was unimaginable. Everywhere she turned, there were people close to death. No building, no family, no form of life was spared. "When we landed, we started driving to a hotel that wasn't apparently so damaged, but we discovered 200 people injured in the parking lot," she says. "I'm not a doctor, but I was helping triage and move people around. I was doing logistical stuff, impromptu pharmacy and helping out however I could."

She also found herself on the other side of the camera, explaining to journalists what was going on, making sure they had the right information, even talking them into asking viewers to donate to IMC. "I've developed quite a jaundiced view of TV. I see all the strings off the puppetry, off the marionettes," she says. "I see how they make mistakes and it frustrates me. At the same time, it's a bit of self-regret because I was one of them: I did not know the humanitarian world."

To be fair, most people know little about what it's like to work at a humanitarian organization: We see TV advertisements asking for donations and hear snippets about the heroism of first-responders but have no sense of the day-to-day tasks involved. Participating in that work firsthand was eye opening for Traub. Before, aid workers might have briefly been the subjects of the stories she produced; working among them helped her tap into her more compassionate side. "I remember thinking, I've never been around people like this. I've never seen or experienced anything like this," she recalls.

It also marked a significant shift from her previous role as an impartial observer and reporter. Being



Nyal, South Sudan, 2017: A crippling civil war has displaced two million people, putting them at risk of starvation and disease.

in a position where it was her job to comfort people and lend a hand, rather than to abide by journalistic standards and stand behind, was gratifying. "Your job is to do something," she says.

Traub's road to IMC was a winding one. Born in Chicago to native New Yorkers, her father, a psychotherapist who studied in Vienna, moved his family to a suburb of Salt Lake City when she was a child. They hiked, fished, skied and hunted in an idyllic landscape, but "it was very much a fish-out-of-water scenario," she recalls. "Going to Catholic high school, I was being exposed to religious practices that I didn't practice, and tenets that I didn't abide by.

"And I didn't look like everyone," she adds, laughing. "I had dark curly hair and a big nose, and everyone else was blond." As soon as she graduated from high school, she was on her way to New York, where she'd dreamed of living for as long as she could remember.

Columbia was challenging for Traub in a way that many students can identify with. "I was so intimidated by these extraordinary achievers. I was the number 1 tennis player in the state in high school, and a concert pianist; I thought that I would be extraordinary. But when I got to Columbia, I was surrounded by people who did everything I did and more." After a couple of semesters of hard partying — a reaction, she says, to Utah's stifling conservatism — Traub began thinking about her career. Should she become a journalist, as she'd always intended, or go to law school? A depressing stint as a paralegal made the decision for her. After an internship at NBC, she became a stringer for the Associated Press, a writer for *Good Morning America* and a producer at CNN.

By 2001, Traub was living in TriBeCa and had what many aspiring journalists would consider a dream job as an executive producer at CNN. Then, 9-11 happened, and the cascade of events that followed compelled her to change her life in a major way — initially because she felt unable to maintain journalistic professionalism amid the hardship that was literally six blocks from her home. "I remember



International Medical Corps delivered medical relief to the people of Hernani, in the Philippines, following 2013's Typhoon Haiyan.

having a hard time depersonalizing the news," she says. "All the news we were covering started to shake me and it was becoming harder to cover stories dispassionately. I started feeling really burned out."

When her malaise didn't subside, Traub's then-husband suggested a move to Los Angeles. She went, planning to give the entertainment industry a try, but "I found TV development in L.A. to be completely soul deadening," she says. "After putting on hundreds of hours of TV every day [at CNN], I was developing shows that after a year hadn't even seen the light of day for half an hour."

Dealing with the Hollywood culture was difficult, too. "New York is straightforward and if people don't like something, they tell you. In L.A., yes means no and no means maybe and maybe means yes." On the recommendation of a former CNN colleague, she interviewed with IMC, and when the CEO offered her a job just days after the initial conversation, she accepted on the spot.

Within a few months, "my view of the world had completely changed. As an executive in a control room, I had a very Western view. We didn't cover stories about Africa and parts of Asia and South America; many news organizations don't." By the time a year had passed, Traub — who'd never been to Africa, or any developing nation, for that matter — had traveled to Uganda, Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The DRC in particular made Traub realize just how much information doesn't come through in a TV spot or news article. When she went in 2007, she was aware of the country because of a much-publicized "rape epidemic"; she did not expect to emerge from her travels a changed, inspired person. "The roller-coaster of emotions and experiences was intense: It's one of the most stunningly beautiful places I've seen, but the suffering is so tremendous. And speaking with women who've been raped in such a violent way, with the butts of guns, with objects being put inside them — understanding human motivation and seeing the best and the worst humanity has to offer side by side on a daily basis broadened my view of the world and of the human experience."

Traub is now IMC's head of global initiatives, which involves on-the-ground disaster relief, as well as promoting the organization's global ambassadors — actresses Robin Wright and Sienna Miller, to name just two — and cultivating partnerships with Fortune 500 companies. She's happier than she was as a journalist, she says, in part because there's less day-to-day politicking and power grabbing. "I'm not a very good political animal," she says.

Wading into warzones and disaster areas can be emotionally traumatic, of course, and Traub says she's still uncovering the consequences of it today. "I felt the reverberations of what I saw subsequently over the years — there are multitudinous reasons for the end of a marriage but it played a role [in mine]." But she feels it's made her stronger. "I'm fearless now about some things I didn't used to be. I have very little tolerance for bullshit — office bullshit, machinations of our day-to-day lives.

"When you're in a place where people don't have food and malnutrition is through the roof, and you come home and the choices are abundant, you start to say, 'I'm not going to worry about this anymore! I'm not going to worry about something with my boss, or that I was just in a fender bender.' They seem to pale in comparison."



Uvira, eastern Congo, 2007: International Medical Corps assisted Congolese refugees who were returning to their homeland after having fled to Tanzania for safety.

"I'm fearless now about some things I didn't used to be. I have very little tolerance for bullshit — office bullshit, machinations of our day-to-day lives."

Traub also finds humanitarian work more meaningful than TV journalism. "My values over the years have evolved," she notes. "What was important to me at CNN was success in my career, my title, money and ratings, and love and personal stuff of course — but I was focused on winning the game.

"I now work in a place where we're not tree huggers — actually, we're a pretty cynical bunch — but we all work together toward a common mission. My work is moving the ball down the road toward helping human existence be better. It's a nicer place to be."

Atossa Araxia Abrahamian '08, JRN'11 *authored* The Cosmopolites: The Coming of the Global Citizen

core values

This year's Great Teacher, Patricia Kitcher, on the enduring importance of Contemporary Civilization

Next year will mark the centennial of the founding of Contemporary Civilization and the Core Curriculum, and Patricia Kitcher, the Roberta and William Campbell Professor of the Humanities and the Carnoy Family Program Chair for Contemporary Civilization, will be a key celebrant. Kitcher has been a leader in CC for five years, and the course's principles are more vital now than ever.

A native of New Haven, Conn., Kitcher became interested in philosophy as a teenager after taking a course on Plato at Yale. She graduated from Wellesley in 1970 and earned a Ph.D. from Princeton in 1974. A renowned Kant scholar, Kitcher specializes in Kant's theories of mind and knowledge and the philosophy of psychology; recently she has turned her attention to Kant's ethical theories.

Kitcher joined the Columbia faculty in 1998; earlier this year she was awarded a Society of Columbia Graduates 2017 Great Teacher Award. Roosevelt Montás '96, GSAS'04, director of the Center for the Core Curriculum and associate dean of academic planning and administration, says of Kitcher: "Principled, rigorous and kind, her influence has made Contemporary Civilization an even stronger course." *Columbia College Today* spoke with Kitcher about Kant, the Core and being a student during troubled times, then and now.

By Jill C. Shomer





JÖRG MEYER

CCT: What was it like being at Wellesley in the late 1960s?
Patricia Kitcher: Well, I can tell you the president of my dorm was a young woman named Hillary Rodham.

Really?! Were you friends?
We were not close friends, but I did know her. She was just like she is now — her conversation ranged from Republicans to Democrats. An impressive person.

It was an interesting time because of the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights movement; we lived through the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. It was a very fraught time.

How did that affect your studies? Were you aware that this was such a significant time in history?
Oh yes, it was part of every conversation. We fought wars differently then — we had the draft, there was much more resistance to the war. In 1969 Hillary was the first student to give a commencement speech [at Wellesley]; she condemned the guest

speaker [Sen. Edward Brooke (R-Mass.), the first African-American elected to the Senate] for supporting the war.

It was on everybody's mind. It was just *everywhere*. The country was much more united then because the burdens were being shared, in a way they're not being shared now. Professors at Yale were giving out A's so men wouldn't fail out and receive draft notices.

We've been talking about that as the 50th anniversary of the 1968 protests comes up, how the canceling of classes may have saved some men from the draft.

And then there was Kent State, with students being shot. We just didn't know where it would end. I didn't take my final exams in 1970 because the students were on strike. The valedictorian of my class didn't get to give her speech because she was in jail [for protesting].

How was it when you left an all-female college and went out into the world? The feminist movement was just getting started at that time.

I went on to grad school and it was a nightmare, I hated every minute. There were hardly any women there. It didn't feel safe. You didn't dare overstay at a party. There were professors you couldn't work with or be alone with.

That's sad.

It is sad. Being in graduate school can be unpleasant, anyway, but this was really unpleasant. The four women ahead of me all failed out — they failed exams, some opted not to continue. I've spent my entire career trying to make it better for graduate women than it was for me.

When I was teaching at UC San Diego I chaired the committee that changed the procedures for cases of sexual harassment. There had been eight steps in the process! We got it down to three, which is as few as you can have, because there must be an analogue of an indictment, a trial and an appeal [by the defendant]. Being expelled or fired from a university are costly penalties, so the procedures need to be fair. Yet there must be a system in place to protect the women — and sometimes men — who are targeted by sexual aggressors. It is demeaning, harmful behavior that should not be tolerated in any community.

Contemporary Civilization has always been about contemporary problems, and when you're living in interesting times — well, we haven't had any great trouble making the CC texts seem relevant.

Do you feel like you're succeeding at creating a better environment for female students?

It's certainly better. But academia is still not very woman-friendly. Philosophy has always been 80 percent male. Our department is good compared to others, but it's still hard for graduate women. Academia is still very family-unfriendly. We've come a long way but there's still a lot of work to be done.



ANTHONY CRIDER / FLICKR

Kitcher expects that her Contemporary Civilization classes will be considering the issues around free speech that arose from August's white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Va.

You've taught at a number of different colleges, in California, Vermont, Minnesota ...

They all had wonderful things to offer. And I've enjoyed every minute at Columbia. Receiving a Great Teacher Award was a great honor and a great surprise.

When you received the award, you spoke about teaching "courses that impart intellectual skills that are essential for getting by in the world we now face." What can you say about the importance of Contemporary Civilization in today's world?

I've thought about my job in terms of trying to see what would be most relevant in the contemporary scene to the texts that we teach. CC has always been about contemporary problems, and when you're living in interesting times — well, we haven't had any great trouble making the CC texts seem relevant.

In the section we have about revolutions we sometimes put in the Constitution as well as the Declaration of Independence — this year we had it in, just to make sure we'd all read it. We have thematic arcs that you can go through the whole course with.

What theme do you have planned for the coming academic year?

The one I would like to add is about the refugee crisis. The beginning of the Trump presidency has forced people to think about principles that do or should govern the treatment of refugees. The real issue is the enormous scope of the problem and the inadequacy of all the responses to it. If students want to be challenged, as ours do, then they can try to see whether they can find any resources for thinking about the refugee problem that are up to the task, and if not, whether they have any ways of developing more adequate approaches to this humanitarian disaster.

How have the thematic focuses you suggest for CC changed through the years? What were some past themes?

The end of the Obama years saw the beginning of a serious discussion about over-punishing. This is one of the major moral issues of our time — why do we punish people so much? The French Constitution strives for minimal punishments. Our Bill of Rights added against "cruel and unusual punishment" at a later stage, and "cruel and unusual" is way out there. Why do you have a system that is so punitive? We added readings like *The New Jim Crow*

["Mass Incarcerations in the Age of Colorblindness," by civil rights litigator and legal scholar Michelle Alexander] and writings about other interesting work that's being done.

We have the Center for Justice at Columbia, and justice in punishment will continue to be a theme in CC. The problem hasn't gone away and it seems to have some bipartisan appeal, which is good in some ways with the present climate of rancor. It is also a "good problem" for CC, if I can put it that way, because it is useful to go back and consider what serious thinkers have offered as rationales for punishment and to see how well they stand up — or whether they provide any defense at all for current practices.

On the topic of serious thinkers, there seems to be a disavowal of knowledge happening right now. Couple that with all the arguments about "fake news" ...

It pays to revisit the arguments about freedom of the press by John Stuart Mill — freedom of the press is more important for the ills it prevents than the good that it does. And that seems all the more true today, with the need for fact checkers. People have been worried about the relationship between fact and theory for hundreds of years. This administration's accusations of bias are just such a crass version of anything that would count as an intellectual discussion of the actual issue.

And so intellectual discussions seem especially important to have right now. What do you think is the value of the Core Curriculum for current College students?

In terms of Contemporary Civilization, it's about learning to think through complex issues, learning to see two sides of the same issue play out and learning what the foundations are. The assigned texts represent different perspectives on political and social problems and the students need to work their way into understanding those different perspectives. To succeed at the course, they can't just parrot what Nietzsche or Du Bois wrote; they must gain some appreciation of why and how they develop the views they do. What are their reasons? What are they assuming or refusing to assume? Although students could still just look at various problems from their own points of view, they've at least had to try to understand what considerations might support other views.

Do you think Contemporary Civilization instills a sense of social responsibility in students?

Our goals are more modest — though not very modest. We try to get students to see problems where perhaps they didn't see them before and to get them to think seriously about how such problems might be approached. To give an example, I often end my section of the course with Amartya Sen's essay on concepts of poverty. Although it might seem at first that definitions of poverty aren't very interesting, students quickly appreciate that they are very important in terms of providing resources to those in need. They also realize quickly that there are lots of reasonable approaches one might take in crafting a definition.

Giving students the tools to think seems to be a worthy thing to do.

How to defend your arguments, how to think, is one of the most valuable things in trying to defend a position or write a paper. "What do I think and why do I think that?" That's actually much harder than you would believe.

What do you think about a movement toward vocational skills, or a major that leads more directly to a job, so that college turns into a path to a career rather than an exploration?

You just need to look at the studies that have been done for decades: People who have a broader education can move better in the world. Rejecting the humanities doesn't make sense from a practical point of view. Students feel like they learn to see the world in a different way so it doesn't look so puzzling to them. I just think the world looks like a friendlier place if you have the intellectual tools. Everyone comes in and takes the Core and immediately begins critical thinking. But it's not just critical thinking — it's how you can approach things in different ways.

I don't separate what you might call the skills part from the substance part — it helps to approach a problem as Aristotle would, or to think about a problem as Mill would, because now you have a way to be in the world thinking about things. Reading a lot of insightful people, you can understand a lot of what's going on.

Are you and your husband [Philip Kitcher, the John Dewey Professor of Philosophy] debating philosophy all the time?

[Laughs.] Our children had a firm rule — no work at any meal! We don't always talk about work, but with a scholarly career it's good to be with another scholar; they know what you're going through and why. When you already have tenure and it's a Sunday but you can't stop.

You've written three books — are you working on another?

Yes, one of the theses I'm trying to defend is connecting Kant's theory of ethics to his theory of cognition — how we understand another person as a thinker is through the understanding of our own mental activity. In my view, that's what he's doing with the ethics as well.

The basic idea is that when you encounter another human being, you automatically take them to be the same sort of moral creature that you are. You see the person, the human form, and you see a moral being: someone who can do the right thing for the right reason, a being who is for that reason worthy of respect. That's what you have to get talked out of, either by yourself or others — something that you know immediately — in order to dismiss others as unworthy and to consider only your own self-interest.

As a coda, since we met in July there's been another national conversation about freedom of speech, related to the events in Charlottesville. Will this be a discussion point with your students?

To return to Mill, the great defender of freedom of expression, free speech loses its protection when done in a way to incite violence. Insofar as the organizers meant not just to express an odious opinion, but also to provoke violent reactions, they forfeited their right to speak. One could argue that history since Mill shows that anti-Semitism and racism are by their very content invitations to violence against members of particular groups. I'm not sure that Mill would disagree, but I expect that CC sections might try to think through this problem during the year and also think through the responsibilities of political leaders and ordinary citizens to respond to hate speech, even in cases where it might be protected by considerations of liberty.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY KARL STEVENS

Open House

Actress Jenny Slate '04 and her father welcome readers into their (haunted!) family home

Those who follow ***Jenny Slate '04****'s acting career won't be surprised to learn that she has long been preoccupied with the idea of hanging on to her childhood self. From her viral YouTube video series (and Penguin book)* Marcel the Shell with Shoes On, *to her roles in* Obvious Child *and* Landline, *Slate's on-screen characters often seem comically immature.*

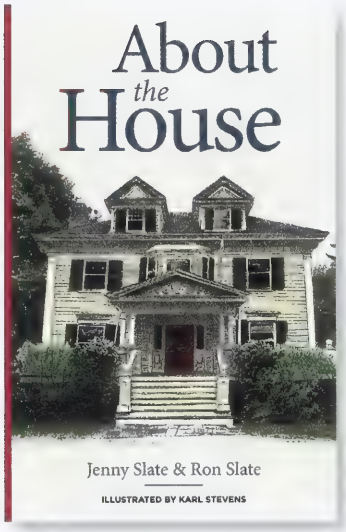
Now, after a notably grown-up level of achievement (appearing on Saturday Night Live, Parks and Recreation *and* Girls), *Slate has chosen to dive into her past. The result is a memoir, co-written with her father, poet Ron Slate,* About the House *(Concord Free Press, 2016). While it's nominally an account of the Slate family's unusual home — a haunted 1898 colonial in the Boston suburbs — the book also serves as a kind of origin story for Slate herself. Like her floral-walled bedroom, or the closet in which she scribbled teenage grudges, the house has been both a laboratory and a much-needed refuge for Slate: a place where she could experiment with ways of being, and a space where she could heal herself when things went catastrophically wrong.*

About the House *was conceived with the help of Concord Free Press co-founders Stona and Ann Fitch. (Ron Slate has been on the press' board since its beginning.) An innovative charity, Concord Free Press publishes a small list of limited-edition titles — a typical print run is 3,000 copies. Each book is given away for free, and the recipient is asked to contribute to a charity of their choice.* About the House *has produced more donations than almost any other on its 11-book list, raising more than $150,000 for causes including the ACLU and Planned Parenthood.*

The Slates' Victorian house "meant a lot to the family," Stona Fitch points out, in describing the book's conception. Unairconditioned and rambling, with a ghost who might appear and disappear on the staircase, the home seems both "scary and loving," more like a person than an abode. In a December 2016 NPR interview, Jenny Slate muses that the place might be somehow "a little bit alive. Like, if you ripped up the basement floor, you might find … a big red lit-up heart or something."

In the following excerpt, Slate examines the ways in which her childhood bedroom was the perfect chrysalis for her still-shifting identity — and her acting career.

— Rose Kernochan BC'82



In my memory, my room still has two beds with rounded bedposts and a desk that smells like varnish. My mother and I stained it and sealed it together, the shellac smelling so strong that when I hid a box of Junior Mints in one of its little drawers, the melty candies tasted only of chemicals and I was pissed and afraid to eat them. I love little secrets and little drawers. I love secrets that are sweet and not rough. I love gentle treasures. My room, in my mind, has a big, comfy white arm chair that I begged for in high school because I also had a phone and lots of reading to do, and I wanted to seem like I was so grown up that I could do my homework even if I wasn't sitting at a desk. I loved to drape myself across the chair, my legs hanging over one arm, my head resting on the other. Teenagers don't need to sit on chairs in the normal way! I also had a big yellow Victorian dollhouse on a rotating platform. Its front lawn had a little pond and a gazebo. The inside of the house was painstakingly decorated. There was a wood-burning stove in the kitchen. The people who lived there were from the past.

I have always loved the past, and loved that the house was so old. I wanted to blend in perfectly with the decades that descended behind us. My dresser was from my grandmother's bedroom when she was a girl, so it was incredibly special to me. And I was a sentimental young person, in a different way than I am now. These days, I sit in my bedroom and reflect but I don't feel a yearning for a part of my life that I haven't gotten to yet. But back then, as a teenager, I was aware of two things — two thoughts that were so alive that I wasn't sure if they were part of me, or if they were my companions.

One: I had always, for my whole life, from my first workable thought, wanted to be an adult woman-actress. There was no start to this desire. It came with me, and I was forced to be with it while it moaned and groaned about not being able to be itself yet. I didn't want to be Shirley Temple. I wanted to be Amy Irving, Mary Steenburgen, Dianne Wiest, Madeline Kahn, Gilda Radner, Judy Garland, and one day, Ruth Gordon.

The second thing I was aware of and tried to be smart about, an idea drilled in by my mother, and then by Mary Martin's *Peter Pan*, was that I would be an idiot and a walking tragedy if I somehow let the child inside myself die away. That I would be the most successful actress and adult if I could somehow preserve it, if I could find delight in my younger self and her innocent and odd preferences. And this is how I became sentimental even as a child and a teen. I knew to value my childhood while I was in it. To plant it and grow it and keep it living, so that I wouldn't have to make a terrible decision or a painful compromise. Do you want to be an adult or a child? I want to be both. Is there an area for that? There is, because I used my bedroom as a lab for this process.

My room had flowers on the walls, and flowers on the rug, and flowers on the quilt and bed linens and dust ruffles and on the curtains too. In the closet were sweaters, skirts and dresses. Party shoes. Scraps of fabric from embroidery, pillow making, and doll clothes projects. Empty duffel bags. At the appropriate point, I really leaned into being a teenager. I would shut myself in the closet with my flashlight from camp, a handful of colored pencils, and write my secrets and grievances on the walls.

During this time, I read Margaret Atwood's *Cat's Eye* like it was my bible. It was about a woman whose whole thing was that she ended up being fine, a full person, and she eventually got to have sex, and an adulthood in which she painted in strong oil paints, and she was a successful artist, but she was ultimately formed by the abuse that she went through while being bullied in her teens. She was bullied viciously by the girl who was supposed to be her best friend. Her bully was Cordelia. There were several bullies for me, including a girl named Jessica, who was my best friend and then made a freezing cold, heartless exit out of my life. But the bully who I still have active rage toward was (and is) Sarah, a wispy-haired, thin-lipped blonde whose heart probably beat once a minute and who probably had minnows swimming in her stomach. A little girl whose cold, blue blood made her seem like an undertaker's sour protégé. I hear she's some sort of yoga teacher now and the idea that she's telling people how to be peaceful while not offering the disclaimer that she caused deep, acid-like suffering makes me want to rip a roof off of a house. She was very good at being cruel, knowing just how to do it. And I, good at nothing but secret things that I didn't know how to express because they were for the future and a deserving audience.

Yes, I'm still upset about it, even though it's too much to still carry this anger. Even though the specific rejections that I experienced unearthed a joyful and heartbreaking resilience in me. I'm still upset about it even though that unchosen pain made me into the person who I am and who I love to be. But this daily emotional pummeling made me ill and disoriented with rage and sadness. And that's why the closet had writing on the walls, hidden scribbles, just a little bit of disobedience, because writing on a wall is not allowed usually, although I'm sure my mother wouldn't have cared. She would have seen, "I hate Jessica, she deserves NO MERCY!" and probably agreed with me. My mother hated Jessica's mother.



So did I. Their family was like a cluster of golden retrievers, but not as gregarious or innocent at all. Just open mouthed and blonde. Her mother wore long denim skirts and giant Christian-y cardigans and had such non-square shoulders that she actually looked like a zucchini in a little outfit.

My mother read *Cat's Eye* in a book club with the other mothers in my class. She came away from the meeting incredulous and agog at the stupidity and emotional wastefulness of the women in the group. She said that they were all complaining about their own mothers, and when they'd looked to her to add in her own mother-based rage, she had declined. Because her mother is Nana Connie, and honestly, Nana Connie really is kind of perfect. My mother never went back to the group, but she did give me the book to read. In my opinion, my mother gave me this book and it saved myself and my life, and I knew it. If I were home right now, I'd get into the closet and write that myself. "My mother's high standards and good taste and warm heart and a book she gave me saved my life and made me who I am right now."

I studied in that bedroom. I studied enough so that I could go to the college of my choice and leave high school behind, even though there were some bright spots at the end. My walls were pinned with pictures of Leonardo DiCaprio, his gentle Nordic features mixing really well with the floral Laura Ashley walls. In one especially adored picture, he stared into the camera, intense and present, with a real goose around his neck.

The goose neck was draped around his own neck. I loved it. It made me crazy with love. I remember thinking, *I wish I could be that goose.*

One summer, I came back from my sophomore year of college, my heart thoroughly shredded by a boy named Russell who claimed that we should break up for the summer because we'd both be going home. "But we're both from Boston!" I screamed at him. He was very timid and didn't like being yelled at, plus he just wasn't over his last girlfriend, who had a wide face like a dinner plate and wore ugly clogs, but who had been mean to him, so he became obsessed with her. I was devastated and limped back home to my childhood bedroom where there was now only one twin bed. My plan was to cut my hair like *Amélie*, work in a chocolate shop in Harvard Square, and get over Russell. Being rejected by him seemed like some sort of major hint thrown my way, something that said that I was *really* not there yet, really not on my way to becoming an actress or even a woman who could be loved.

There is no air conditioning in our house in Milton. I've never wanted it. I love the open windows, the very loud bugs, and the fans that we take out of the attic when it gets too hot. We bring them down from the third floor and we put them on in our rooms, and they wave their heads from side to side and help us go to sleep with their breeze and humming rhythm. I bought new sheets for my bed, sort of matching with the Laura Ashley extravaganza that never died, but also to assert that I was interesting and worth it. The bottom sheet was light pink. The top sheet was a deep raspberry. I kept the bed as it was, by the window, but I put the sheets on backwards. I slept on the wrong end of the bed, with my head right by the window, in mismatching sheets, not sure if I was awake or asleep because I smoked so much weed that my brain felt like a melted caramel. *Fuck you, Russell.* This right here is what a dream girl looks like. I had some other boyfriends that summer. I relaxed in that bedroom, not knowing it would be my last full summer as myself alone in that room. I smoked constant weed. I listened



to the *Amélie* soundtrack and ate big bowls of cherries, before I became very allergic to them. I smelled like chocolate and I rested, and at some point I left and went back to New York City to continue to try to let something out of myself and into myself.

The room went through changes. Things got taken off the walls because the ceiling had to be fixed. The little bed, once part of a pair, was taken to the third floor to be with its mate and was replaced with a weird big four-poster bed that my parents got without asking me. A crib went into the room, but it was old, from when we were babies. It was supposed to be for my sister's twins, but I think she thought it was thoroughly unfit, which I'm sure is right. It seemed rusty and splintery and not for today's babies. The last time I was in that room I'd crept back to Milton to try to get my head on straight after the three-year long crash and burn of my marriage. Being a divorcée in a big bed all by yourself actually seems like a game that I would have played as a girl.

I don't know what is more important than to say that most of the time I spent in that room was given to completing tasks, making wishes and fantasizing, all in preparation, all in a yearning drive, to become my actress adult self. Every single stage of that room is colored by that desire. My parents came to that house and they maybe were thinking about whether or not they were who they hoped to be, and whether they could continue to do what they wanted. I knew exactly what I wanted to be, and I knew I had nothing to do but to wait until it was time. Incubation. The room was a chrysalis. In many variations, I played a game. I played that I was an adult actress, that I had choices about what to do with the hours in the day, and that I was also living a life in which I myself was chosen by others. I played that I ate a small meal and took a long walk. That my room was my apartment and our lawn was Central Park. I played that I had objects of womanhood (clip-on earrings, a purse, a bra, a cup of coffee and window to look out of), and I pretended that I used these objects with intention while knowing that they were part of a whole, precious vision.

I used to get myself up in "dress-up clothes" that strangely resembled Bernadette Peters in *Annie*, using play money from Milton Bradley's *The Game of Life* and an old purse that also had fake credit cards and car keys, and leave my room like a woman leaves her New York City apartment: Lock the door, be in a bit of a rush, wiggle your butt as you walk, go out there into the city-world to get something for yourself, like groceries or nightgowns or scotch tape — all small but important details in a bigger situation of personal success.

I did it all on purpose, my game-playing in that room whose walls looked like a garden. Not long ago, I told my father, "An actress is someone who is a woman on purpose," or many different women to be sure, but also one woman as well. I played the game of pretending and imagining that I was already who I hoped to be. And I sat in the room and I studied in there, hoping to make my brain good enough to go to New York. I played the game again, and I slept on the bed in the right way and the wrong way, and then I left.

Playing the game became second nature, even outside of the room. You cannot play the game correctly if you are also not aware of the present. The actress is not unaware that she is standing on a stage. You cannot play the game well if you erase the objects that are there. You have to say, "This plastic tea cup is what it is, but I'm saying that it's a porcelain coffee cup and it has coffee and not just water, and I'm looking at the lawn through the bedroom window, but the bedroom window stands for a gorgeous old window in a New York City apartment, and the lawn stands for a city street that I'm not even afraid of, or Central Park." You take the *now* and you use it and you make sure to not insult it. You just use it creatively. You make it special by saying, "Hey room, did you know you could do *this* with yourself?" You play the game until so much time has passed that the game becomes real, and everything has always been real, all of everything and the way it's been dressed up and converted, it's all connected because it was always allowed to be there.

The room is resting now, and I'm out there with a bra and a purse, pretending to be another woman when someone calls *action*, and honestly being one woman when the person says *cut*.

Most of the time I spent in that room was given to completing tasks, making wishes and fantasizing, all in preparation, all in a yearning drive, to become my actress adult self.

Out in the world, the part of myself that has been asking to be let out and accepted, the adult actress who lived inside my child self, has sprung into being. She changed places with the child, who has now made a tiny little bedroom in my heart. She lives in there. She has her own little phone line and it calls my brain and I always pick up.

The room is resting and when I need it, I go back and rest in it. We are together again, and it's odd, because the room has the feel of an empty cocoon, invisible curving, a curling up trail of energy. It has the jet streaks of the energy of a creature that has waited and waited and built up the power to be whole and to fly off into the outside. It has done its major part, and now it is either just what it is, or a treasure for another creature to find and wonder over.

Used with permission from the Concord Free Press (concordfreepress.com). © 2016 Ron Slate and Jenny Slate.

alumni news





COURTESY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Contents

34 CCAA Message

35 Alumni in the News

36 Lions
Julie Jacobs Menin '89; Kenneth Wray '77, GSAPP'91; Ian Rapoport '02

40 Bookshelf
Worth It: Your Life, Your Money, Your Terms by Amanda Steinberg '99

42 Class Notes
Alumni Sons and Daughters; Just Married!

84 Obituaries
Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, GSAS'53; Norman Dorsen '50

88 Alumni Corner

UNITING COLUMBIA'S CAMPUS

Crisp fall weather might bring to mind memories of heading to class along College Walk, but the pedestrian path tread by so many students hasn't always been there. A street once ran through the center of campus, from Broadway to Amsterdam, but in 1953 the City of New York gave its blessing for a radical project. Columbia's "bicentennial beautification plans," as *Spectator* reported on April 7 that year, called for closing the block to motor traffic, ripping up the paving and replacing it "with a new surfacing and landscaping which will be in harmony with the surrounding area." The article continued: "Columbia, which has agreed to pay a token $1,000 to the city, will be bound not to erect any structures over the entire area. The closing of the street ... will consolidate the campus, making the area from 114th to 120th Street virtually one unit."

On June 6, 1955, the Board of Trustees voted to change the name from West 116th Street to College Walk, making it part of Columbia's signature landscape and lexicon.



New Leaders, New Priorities for the Year Ahead

By Michael Behringer '89

I am honored to be the newest president of the Columbia College Alumni Association (college.columbia.edu/alumni). Having been involved with the CCAA for nearly 10 years, I can say with certainty that it's a rewarding experience to give back to Columbia, reconnect with old friends and meet generations of alumni and students. I'm looking forward to advancing the CCAA's mission during my three-year term, which began on July 1.

The CCAA serves both College alumni and students. Founded in 1825, its membership comprises more than 50,000 College alumni worldwide. By tradition, we also recognize College students, faculty and administrators as members.

The CCAA is your liaison and representative for all things relating to the College. Its mission is to promote alumni engagement, raise funds on behalf of the College and provide counsel to the dean and other senior administrators. Our leadership, a 70-member Board of Directors elected to two-year terms, meets regularly with Dean James J. Valentini. Examples of the CCAA's work are leading and supporting the Columbia College Fund, supporting the Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner and John Jay Awards Dinner, and maintaining several committees that address topics of importance to students and alumni, such as career education, student life and athletics.

This fall, six new members join me on the Steering Committee: **Steve Coleman '83,** VP of engagement; **Ted Schweitzer '91,** VP of development; **Alex Wallace Creed '88,** VP, state of the College; **Stefanie Katz-Rothman '88,** communications adviser; **Chris Della Pietra '89,** secretary; and our chair, **Doug Wolf '88.**

The CCAA is fortunate to have such a dedicated group of volunteers. Steve has been an Alumni Representative Committee (ARC) regional chair for Boston. Ted, a prolific fundraiser, is a former chair of the Fund Development Council. Alex is a John Jay Award recipient and was the Class Day speaker in 2011. Stefanie co-led the planning for the Columbia College Women 30th celebration symposium this past April. Chris, the quarterback of our 1988 football team that broke "the streak," was presented the President's Cup for his reunion leadership. Doug led the CCAA as president for the past three years.

For this year the board has identified several priorities:

• **Expanding ARC:** ARC members help the Admissions Office by interviewing applicants to Columbia College and Columbia Engineering and by representing the schools at local events to promote the Columbia experience. Despite a passionate group of core volunteers, we trail our Ivy peers in number of interviews with prospective students. We want to expand our ARC coverage and strengthen our volunteer system.

• **Developing the Odyssey Mentoring Program:** College alumni include professionals and experts in nearly every discipline. Their knowledge, coupled with their understanding of what it means to have attended the College, makes for an invaluable resource. We want to expand opportunities for alumni to provide advice and networking opportunities to current students as well as to fellow alumni.

• **Implementing increased student-alumni programming:** Alumni and students are eager to interact and share experiences, build community and understand the issues facing students today. We have some exciting ideas in the works that we'll share in the coming months.

• **Support for Core to Commencement:** The Core to Commencement campaign is a multi-year endeavor to rally support and dollars to enhance the undergraduate experience that makes the College the "jewel" of the Columbia crown. We want to draw more alumni into this important initiative that supports students, faculty and the Core and positions alma mater for continuing greatness.

• **Reunions and Homecoming:** We'll look at ways to enhance these signature events by expanding programming and participation.

We need passionate alumni to help with these initiatives. If you're interested in volunteering, or have questions and/or suggestions, please email me at mpbehringer@gmail.com or friend me on Facebook (facebook.com/michael.behringer1). I'd love to hear from you.

Also, please mark these fall events on your calendar. Homecoming is Saturday, October 14; the Lions will host Penn. The Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner is Thursday, November 16. The Alexander Hamilton Medal, the CCAA's highest honor for service to the College, will be awarded this year to one of our most dedicated and loyal alumni, University Trustee **Jonathan S. Lavine '88.** I hope you can join us in celebrating Jonathan for all he has done for Columbia.

ROAR!

On August 25, **Lisa Carnoy '89** was unanimously elected to the United States Soccer Board of Directors, where she will be an independent director. The board is the governing body of the U.S. Soccer Federation.

After being appointed by New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo in early June, Justice **Paul Feinman '81** was confirmed by the New York State Senate to the State Court of Appeals on June 21.

On August 3, *Ad Age* hosted "Women to Watch," an event to celebrate women in advertising. EVP of Global Solutions for Fox Networks Group **Danielle Maged '89, BUS'97** received an *Ad Age* "Women to Watch" award during the ceremony.

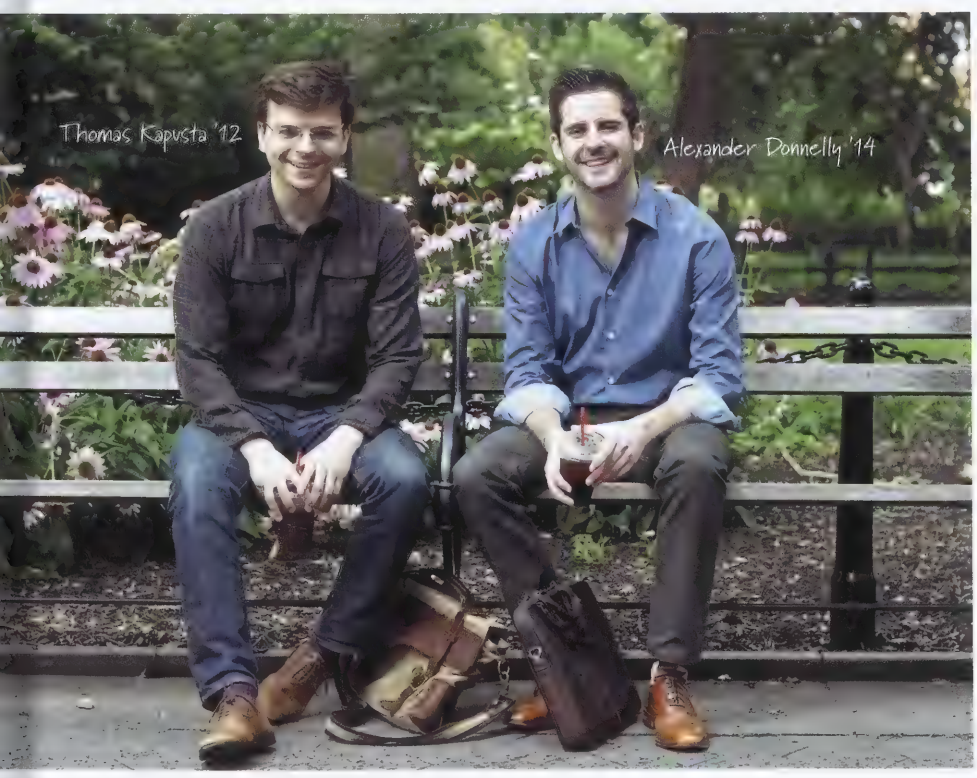
Max Schnur '15 made it to the first round of doubles play at Wimbledon's 131st Championships. He is the first Columbia alumnus to make it into the tournament since 1982.

On August 4, WNYC's Leonard Lopate interviewed artistic director **Thomas Kapusta '12** and producer **Alexander Donnelly '14** about The Corkscrew Theater Festival, which they created to support independent theater and artists by increasing production opportunities for early-career artists.

Two alumni appeared in *Crain's New York*'s list of the Most Powerful Women 2017: New York City Council Speaker **Melissa Mark-Viverito '91** came in at number 17 and **Sheena Wright '90, LAW'94**, president and CEO of the United Way of New York City, came in at number 41. The rankings "evaluated the candidates using three basic criteria: the financial size of their organization, their rank within their company and the specific impact they've had on New York City through their professional and personal endeavors." All the honorees were celebrated at a luncheon on September 26.

Maggie Gyllenhaal '99 stars in *The Deuce*, which debuted on HBO on September 10. The show takes place in the 1970s and tells the story of the beginnings of New York City's porn industry; Gyllenhaal stars as a sex worker who enters the triple-X film world.

Musicologist, historian and UC Berkeley Emeritus Professor of Music **Richard Taruskin '65, GSAS'76** received Japan's prestigious 2017 Kyoto Prize "for his contributions to the study, performance and critical discourse of early music, modern Russian music and Western music history."



JASON MOODY PHOTOGRAPHY

Broadway producer **Ron Simons '82, BUS'89** won the Tony for "Best Play Revival" for August Wilson's *Jitney* at the 71st Tony Awards ceremony, held June 11 at Radio City Music Hall.



David Perlman '39, JRN'40, the famed *San Francisco Chronicle* science editor, retired in early August after nearly 70 years with the *Chronicle*. "Perlman has churned out thousands of articles over the years," said a *KQED Science* article about his retirement. "Not only has he won numerous science journalism awards, there are two named for him. Perlman's life has spanned whole epochs in science: the launch of the space age, the entire unfolding of the computer age and, as *The Los Angeles Times* noted in a profile, Pluto's entire life as a planet, from its discovery in 1930, to its recent demotion to subplanet."

Long-distance runner and activist **Alison Mariella Désir '07, GSAS'11, TC'16** is one of the faces of a new Under Armour campaign, "Unlike Any," which celebrates female athletes. The campaign combines the work of lyricists, poets and spoken-word artists to create videos highlighting each athlete.

Lucia Aniello '04 made her film directorial debut on June 16 with *Rough Night*, a comedy starring **Kate McKinnon '06** and Scarlett Johansson, among others. McKinnon also appeared on the cover of the July 2017 *ELLE*; she was interviewed by Tina Fey.

— Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09



ANTOINE BRAXTON/TELL-A-VISION FILMS

Commissioner Julie Jacobs Menin '89 Advances NYC's Cultural Profile

By Christine Yu '99

Bringing the Grammys back to New York City seemed like an impossible task. But **Julie Jacobs Menin '89** was up for the challenge.

In February 2016, during her first week as head of media and entertainment for NYC, Menin flew to Los Angeles to woo executives from The Recording Academy. After staging the Grammys at the Staples Center for 17 of the last 18 years, the case to move them east was hard to make. It cost an estimated $6 million–$8 million more to run the show in the Big Apple, where there hadn't always been political support for the event.

Now, for the first time, the music industry had a dedicated advocate within NYC government. When Mayor Bill de Blasio appointed Menin commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MOME), he expanded the office's portfolio to include music, publishing, advertising and digital media, in addition to its longstanding focus on film, theater and television. "To not have the music industry housed in any city agency was problematic," says Menin, demonstrating the take-charge attitude driving her quest to make NYC the preeminent media and entertainment hub in the country. "We need to cover all the creative sectors. There are a lot of synergies among them."

Left to right: Mayor Bill de Blasio, Julie Jacobs Menin '89, Alicia Keys, Jane Rosenthal and Deputy Mayor Alicia Glen at the 50th Anniversary celebration of MOME.

For more than a year, Menin showed The Recording Academy that music has a home in NYC. Since the city doesn't underwrite award shows, she orchestrated complex negotiations among city agencies, Madison Square Garden, labor unions and the academy to defray the event's costs and rallied a host committee to raise millions of dollars. By May, Menin succeeded — the 60th Annual Grammy Awards will return to Madison Square Garden on January 28, 2018. It is expected to generate $200 million in economic benefit for NYC. "When we talk about affordable housing, parks and schools, this revenue can be a game changer," she says.

For nearly 20 years, Menin has been a trailblazer. The awards show coup was the latest example of how she facilitates opportunities for New Yorkers.

Growing up in Washington, D.C., Menin was curious about current events. However, the political science major's interest in government really began at Columbia, thanks to a public policy course taught by Professor Ester Fuchs. "She spoke about the role city government can play in effecting change," says Menin, and the idea stuck.

Menin earned a law degree from Northwestern in 1992 and practiced regulatory law for eight years. In 1999, ready for a change, she opened Vine, a restaurant and catering business a few blocks from the World Trade Center, despite zero food industry experience. "I wanted to operate a small business in the community where I lived and was going to raise a family," she says. But her business was destroyed and she was forced to evacuate her home after 9-11.

"September 11 was important in terms of catalyzing Julie's passion and commitment to New York City," says Lisa Carnoy '89, former division executive for the Northeast for U.S. Trust and a Columbia University trustee, who knows Menin professionally and through their work with Columbia College Women and the Columbia College Alumni Association (Menin was a CCAA Board of Directors member 2010–16 and since 2016 has been a Columbia College Board of Visitors member).

As a local business owner and resident, Menin was spurred to act. She founded the nonprofit Wall Street Rising three weeks after 9-11. It assisted more than 600 small businesses by helping them navigate the convoluted world of emergency aid programs, apply for loans and grants, and identify viable real estate for relocation in order to stay in operation. It initiated cultural programs to attract visitors downtown, and Menin worked with Jane Rosenthal and Robert De Niro to launch the first Tribeca Film Festival in 2002.

Menin's leadership in the resurgence of Lower Manhattan led to her appointment to Manhattan's Community Board 1, which covers the Financial District, Battery Park City and Tribeca, and which she chaired for seven years. "Thousands of residents left after 9-11 and never came back. Everyone said people weren't going to live and work there. But we proved them wrong," she says. In 2014, de Blasio tapped Menin to head the Department of Consumer Affairs, where she fought for worker and consumer protections.

Today, Menin continues to find opportunities to invigorate NYC's vibrant cultural and economic life. She launched a five-part women's initiative, including a $5 million grant fund, to increase representation of women in film, television and theater. "Many studies point to the lack of female directors, producers, writers and actors. We're not seeing or hearing enough women's voices," Menin says. Her office also helped create job-training programs for unemployed and underemployed workers, and a virtual reality and augmented reality hub at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, which is expected to create more than 500 jobs in the next 10 years. She even convinced New Yorkers to agree to read the novel *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie together for the "One Book, One New York" program, and is uniting the city this fall around *Crooklyn* for "One Film, One New York."



ANTOINE BRAXTON/TELL-A-VISION FILMS

Menin continues to draw energy from NYC, where she lives with her husband and three sons, a 14-year-old and 12-year-old twins. This fall, she's bringing her passion back to where it started — Columbia. She's slated to teach "Cities Take the Lead: When Local Officials Fill the Federal Policy Void" at SIPA.

"I'm a firm advocate and believer that government can make a difference in people's lives," says Menin. "Being involved in city government is an honor."

Christine Yu '99 *is a freelance writer who has written for* The Washington Post, Outside *magazine and espnW, among others.*

Sleepy Hollow Mayor Takes Town Beyond the Legend

By Nathalie Alonso '08

It's tough to introduce yourself as the mayor of Sleepy Hollow without raising some eyebrows. "As in the Headless Horseman?" Indeed, and each fall **Ken Wray '77, GSAPP '91** presides over the first of the season's annual hayrides that trace the flight of Ichabod Crane. But the mayor of this small New York village has bigger responsibilities than nurturing an early 19th-century legend.

Top of the list: overseeing Edge-on-Hudson, an ambitious construction project on which Sleepy Hollow has pinned its hopes of economic growth. The plans call for transforming nearly 100 riverfront acres — formerly a General Motors plant — into a complex with more than 1,100 housing units, commercial space, parkland and a hotel. The site had been vacant since 1996, when the plant closed, and its restoration will have a profound impact on the scenic Hudson Valley village. So in addition to typical mayoral duties like managing the budget and hiring municipal employees, Wray's job has involved negotiating with GM and the developers.

"That's what's exciting about it," Wray says as he tours the construction site in his blue pickup one day this past summer. "You do

all the things a mayor does in any other little village, except here we've got all this development and the need to manage how it's going to play out."

Edge-On-Hudson was conceived years before Wray was elected mayor in 2009, but legal battles, GM's bankruptcy and other hurdles delayed construction until May 2016. Under Wray's leadership, the village settled the pending lawsuits and successfully navigated oft-contentious negotiations with GM on the way to issuing the special permit that made development possible. Wray also negotiated a deal that allowed Sleepy Hollow to install an urgently needed water reservoir on land owned by the Rockefeller family, at no cost to the village. "Without that, we couldn't let a single new home be built," he says.



NATHALIE ALONSO '08

Mayor Ken Wray '77 with the Halloween-themed fire truck he commissioned.

Edge-On-Hudson is expected to increase Sleepy Hollow's small but diverse population — currently 10,000 residents, half of whom speak Spanish at home — by roughly a third, according to Wray, who also is executive director of The Parodneck Foundation, a non-profit that promotes affordable housing in New York City. Wray will draw from decades of experience in that field as he attempts to mitigate the effects of gentrification. "We all moved here because we liked the character of the village; we liked that it's a village, not an anonymous 'burb," he says.

Sleepy Hollow was known as North Tarrytown when Wray and his wife, Lynn Moffat BC'78, arrived with their three children by way of Brooklyn in 1996. The GM plant had recently shuttered, taking with it a major source of tax revenue. Seeking a cleaner, safer place to live, the couple was impressed by the school system and the community's deep roots. They arrived in time to vote in favor of the name change to reflect the village's place in American lore as the setting of Washington Irving's 1820 tale *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow,* as well as a shift to a recreation-based economy.

Now in his fifth term as mayor, Wray got involved in local government "by accident," he says, in 2007, when he unwittingly signed papers to run for village trustee at a Democratic Party meeting — and won. He found the work compelling and, after a two-year term on the Board of Trustees, Wray decided to run for mayor. In the last two elections he ran with Unite Sleepy Hollow, a non-partisan coalition he helped establish in 2015.

As a trustee, Wray identified and helped other candidates get elected to the board, among them David Schroedel, who served two terms. A village resident since 1986, Schroedel attributes Wray's success, at the negotiation table and at the polls, to an ability to foster cooperation among people with different perspectives. "He puts together strong teams and challenges them to build consensus on how to approach problems," says Schroedel.

Driven by memories of visiting state and national parks with his family — including his father, Karl Wray '35 (now deceased), and twin brother, Mark Wray '77 — Wray is now working to ensure that for the first time, Sleepy Hollow residents can enjoy their spectacular waterfront. As part of the deal with GM, the village received a 29-acre parcel that will be used for amenities such as an amphitheater, a community center and sports facilities. Wray also envisions outdoor art reminiscent of the Storm King Art Center, one of the world's leading sculpture parks, further north.

"Whatever we do is going to be here for 50 years and probably longer than that," he says. "We're looking at this as an opportunity to shape the future of the village."

Nathalie Alonso '08, *from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website. She is a regular contributor to* CCT.

Go Inside the NFL with Ian Rapoport '02

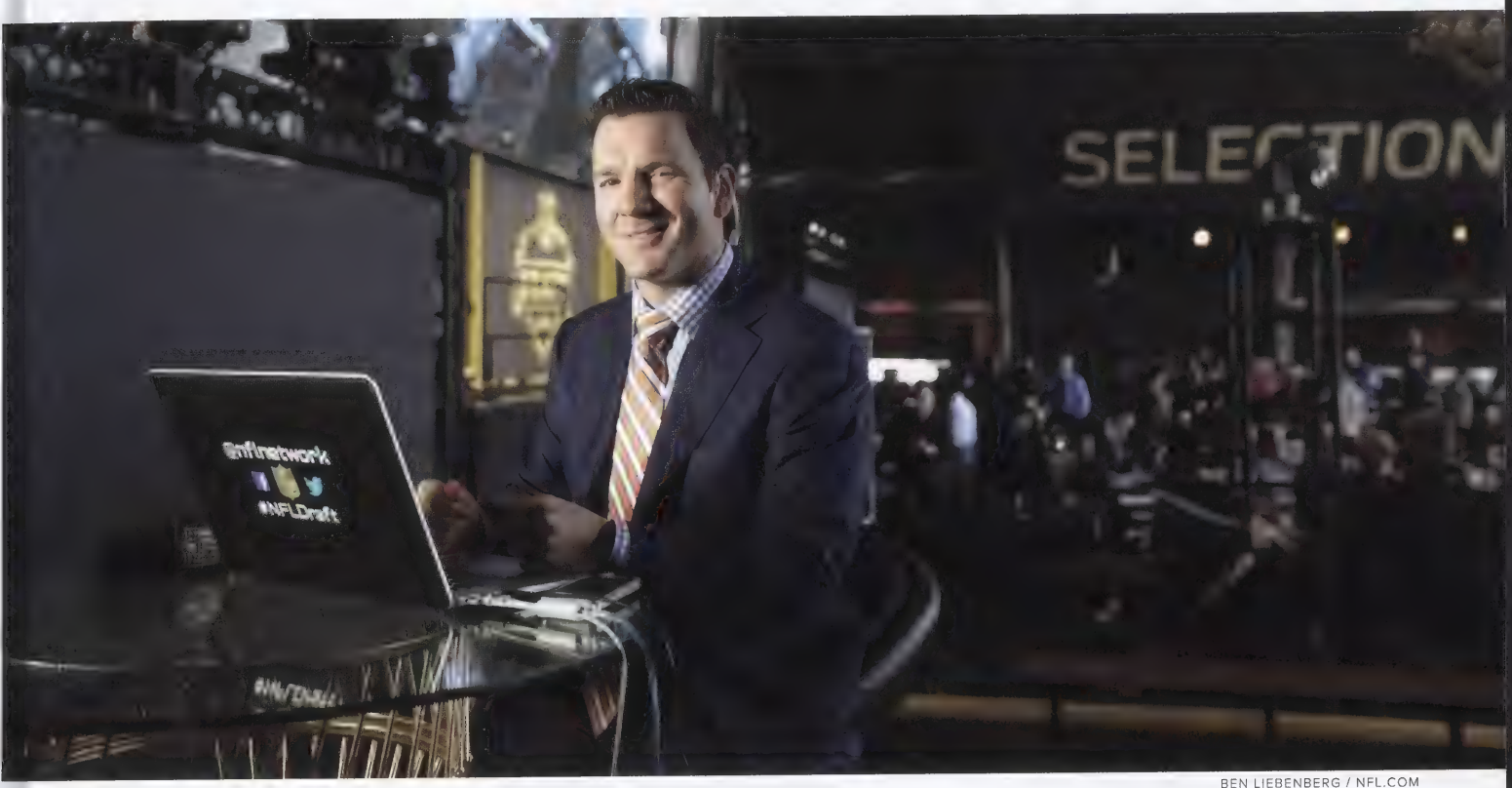
By Alex Sachare '71

On the first full day of summer, **Ian Rapoport '02** was playing golf and focused on nothing more urgent than which club to choose for his next shot. A few minutes later, after getting a tip from a source and confirming it, he was on the phone with the set of *Good Morning Football*, the NFL Network's morning show, breaking the news that the Oakland Raiders had signed quarterback Derek Carr to a contract extension that at that time made Carr the highest paid player in the NFL.

Such is the life of an NFL "Insider" in these days of no real offseason and a 24-hour news cycle — always on call, always one moment away from having to drop everything and chase down a story, verify a report, confirm a rumor. And Rapoport loves every minute of it.

"I like covering something that people really care about and need to know about," says Rapoport, who has been an on-air reporter for the NFL Network since 2012.

Rapoport, like his chief rival, ESPN's Adam Schefter, is charged with "breaking news, telling our audience things they didn't know and giving them insight into what is going on around the league," says David Eaton, news editor for the NFL Network.



BEN LIEBENBERG / NFL.COM

Rapoport appears regularly on the shows *Good Morning Football* and *NFL Total Access,* often with segments that air from his basement studio at his home in Rye, N.Y., just north of New York City. He also is a regular on the Sunday pregame show during football season and reports from the NFL Playoffs, the Super Bowl and the NFL Draft, among others. And for those who can't wait to get the news on TV, Rapoport tweets it to his more than 1.3 million followers (@rapsheet).

A native of Westchester County, Rapoport was a history major. He planned to go to law school, but enjoyed covering sports for *Spectator* and by sophomore year, he says, "I knew I wanted to give journalism a try." He decided to give it two years, and if things weren't working out, it would be on to law school.

Rapoport worked part time in the sports department of the *Journal News*, his local newspaper, and, shortly before his self-imposed deadline, landed a full-time job at *The Clarion-Ledger* in Jackson, Miss., where he covered Mississippi State football. "When I was interviewed, they kept asking me whether I really would leave New York and move to Mississippi, like they couldn't believe anyone would do that. But I really wanted to give it a shot," he says. And while he admits to "a little bit" of culture shock, he notes, "I lived in Starkville, a real college town, for two years and that's where I met the woman [Leah] who would become my wife. So there was a lot to like in Starkville."

From there it was on to *The Birmingham (Ala.) News,* where he covered Alabama football and the Crimson Tide's famously controlling coach, Nick Saban. "Nothing could have prepared me for what became the craziest experience of my life," he says. "Everything he said was a story, and everyone in the state wanted to read everything about him," Rapoport says. "I went from a nobody to one of the most widely read writers in college football."

After three years, Rapoport moved to the *Boston Herald* to cover the New England Patriots and their similarly controlling head coach, Bill Belichick. He did so for two years and also did some television work, including reports for the NFL Network, which caught the attention of editors there. "I was covering the Super Bowl," Rapoport says, "and they asked me to come in and talk. I told them I didn't know anything about TV, but they said, 'That's OK, we'll teach you.'"

Eaton says that he was attracted by the skills Rapoport developed while covering high-profile teams and demanding coaches. "He had very strong sports editors early on in his career. The time in Alabama made him a better reporter and New England is another good place to learn how to develop news sources. Those experiences made him a very solid reporter."

Rapoport became a Dallas-based regional reporter for the NFL Network and after a year was promoted to the position of NFL Insider. Two years later, Rapoport and his family — which now includes sons Max (4) and Jude (3), who enjoy playing in his home studio — relocated to Rye, a 20-minute drive from where he grew up. "My goal always was to get back to New York," he says. "It took a long time to get back here, but I'm extremely happy the way it worked out."

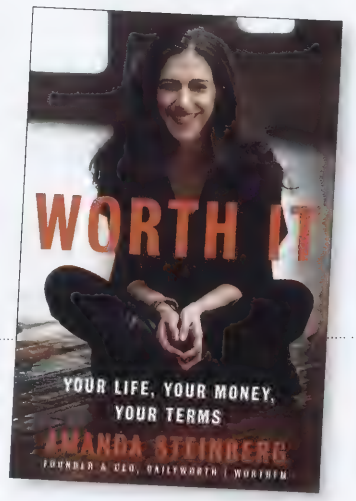
Asked about his plans, Rapoport says he loves his job despite its consuming nature. "I'm the guy telling NFL fans what's up, and to me, that's fun." He concedes that he sometimes misses writing, though, and says he'd like to write a book in the near future. But at the pace that news breaks around the NFL, that's unlikely to happen anytime soon.

Alex Sachare '71 *is a former editor-in-chief of* CCT. *In prior careers, he was a sports writer and administrator.*

bookshelf

Amanda Steinberg '99 Redefines a Woman's Worth

By Yelena Shuster '09



By 21, **Amanda Steinberg '99** was running her own office. By 25, she was making six figures. By 29, she had founded a million-dollar software company. So how did the longtime hustler find herself unexpectedly $100,000 in debt a year later?

The short answer: She had no clue how to manage money. And if someone as successful as she could have that big a financial blind spot, what hope do the rest of us have? The realization led to Steinberg's next start-up, in 2009: DailyWorth.com, a financial hub for women unlike any in the mainstream media at the time, full of personal essays meant to appeal to all aspects of a woman's wallet. "My hypothesis was if I can repackage and rebrand money in a way that makes it intelligent, but not just focused on, 'Here's how to save $10 at the grocery store,' then I would be able to attract half of the market, which then would be an interest to advertisers," she says.

Eight years later, Steinberg has adapted her guidance into book form with *Worth It: Your Life, Your Money, Your Terms* (North Star Way, $26). "Socialized separation between women and money is so much more of a problem than I realized when I started [the website]. The whole identity of what it means to be female is to not be interested in money in most cases," she says.

Steinberg strove not to sound like a typical finance author, from the cover to the content.

"We're so used to money advice being delivered in a certain way and I felt like I kept being pushed into the formulas. Like my publisher wanted me standing on the cover like Power Woman" — she crosses her arms — "and I was like, 'That's not me; it's not how I project.' I want to be warm and accessible."

In the book, Steinberg rails against the gendered financial advice women typically receive, which she believes focuses on the microcosm of the home (earning, budgeting) instead of bigger-picture macroeconomics (saving, investing). "Budgeting is a lot like dieting — both encourage the same type of magical thinking about transformation," she writes.

Worth It is as much memoir as self-help. In the irreverent, confessional voice that made DailyWorth a success, Steinberg detours into the personal, like her parents' divorce and her early sexual exploits. She uses her own story to inspire: If she rebounded from $100,000 in debt to build a positive net worth, so can you.

The book features scientific data, psychology studies and anecdotes in the tone of a savvy friend, complete with mini homework assignments to change your inner money narrative.

"It's not that women can't grasp the subtleties of the financial services industry; it's that the language is arcane a lot of the time. It's a full-immersion language course," says Steinberg's book editor, Susan Gregory Thomas '91. "What Amanda does is talk about both investments and the nitty-gritty aspects of budgeting in intelligent but ultimately relatable, practical, you-can-do-this ways."

For Steinberg, who read *The Economist* and wore business suits "for fun" in high school, Columbia gave her the opportunity to finally fit in, "abnormal sense of ambition" and all. "I always dreamed of becoming an executive," she says. "I didn't have a lot of friends because I was intense, you know? We laugh about it now, but it wasn't cute when I was 19. It was weird. Columbia was the perfect springboard for me to accelerate my career path."

Case in point: As a senior, Steinberg convinced then-Dean of Academic Affairs Kathryn B. Yatrakis GSAS'81 to let her take a Business School class for her urban studies major. Though the class wasn't for undergraduates, Steinberg sat in Yatrakis' office until she made the exception. Steinberg earned an A — and, thanks to a class guest speaker, her first job out of college.

The speaker had a web-development company that hired adults from low-income neighborhoods. Instead of asking for an internship, Steinberg — and her abnormal ambition — thought of something else. "I waited until the whole room cleared out, and here I am, a senior in college, and I was like, 'I need to open up your New York office.' He's like, 'What? You're 12.' And I was like, 'No, I do,'" she says.

That's how she ended up managing an entire team right after graduation.

Some might find it strange for a non-writer to launch a content company, but it's clear from five minutes of chatting that Steinberg is a born storyteller.

"A lot of DailyWorth's success and the fact that I created this brand that women relate to is because I am able to express it in a way that balances humor, intelligence and irreverence," she says. "The world does not need another dry money book."

Yelena Shuster '09 *has written for* The New York Times, Cosmopolitan, InStyle *and more. She now runs TheAdmissionsGuru.com, where she edits admissions essays for high school, college and graduate school applications.*



Taking on Global Health Issues: Odyssey of a Developmental Pediatrician by Dr. *Alfred Scherzer '49*. Scherzer's memoir of his work in Southeast Asia and the South Pacific includes the establishment of organized government health education services (Lulu.com, $10).

All is For the Best by *Richard Ascher '55*. A collection of darkly comedic short stories about a tribe of New Yorkers 1945–2010; some of the tales are drawn from real-life situations (Amazon Digital Services, $14.99).

Minyan: Ten Interwoven Stories by *John J. Clayton '56*. A *minyan* is a group of Jews who meet to pray; these fictional stories, set in a congregation in Boston, consider the intersections of love, psychology and spirituality (Paragon House, $17.95).

MacKenzie's Farewell by *William Burley '63*. In this novel, two environmental activists must fight to prevent a nuclear waste dump from moving into a Connecticut town (iUniverse, $20.98).

Manci's Girl: An Updated Noir Thriller by *Bennett Alan Weinberg '71*. A young writer becomes entangled with a Philadelphia crime boss and his amoral former mistress in this first volume of the Bon Vivant Mystery series (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, $15).

Literary Awakenings: Personal Essays from the Hudson Review edited by *Ronald Koury '78*. A collection of 18 essays about the many ways literature shapes our daily lives (Syracuse University Press, $24.95).

Christianity Matters: How Over Two Millennia the Meek and Merciful Revolutionized Civilization — And Why It Needs to Happen Again by *David Maloof '80*. Maloof, a senior partner at an international law firm, describes and analyzes the effect that Christianity has had on world history (70x7 Publishing, $12.99).

Martian Dawn & Other Novels by *Michael Friedman '82*. Readers will encounter "stardom, science fiction, movies, love affairs, twins, French people, writing colonies, parenting, missionaries, murder and holograms" in this trio of novellas (Little A, $14.95).

A Hero in Time by Dr. *Peter J. Rappa '83*. A love story with a medical theme that features a mysterious trauma victim in a Texas hospital and the team of doctors trying to discover his identity (Build.Buzz.Launch Media & Publishing, $16.99).

Campus Politics by *Jonathan Zimmerman '83*. The battle between freedom of expression and political correctness is heating up at many universities; Zimmerman, a professor of history and education at NYU, lays the groundwork for understanding both sides of the controversy (Oxford University Press, $16.95).

The Comfort of Strangers: Social Life and Literary Form by *Gage McWeeny '93*. The author describes how literature of the 19th century changed as cities got bigger, going from stories of individuals and interiority to those representing experiences of life amidst strangers (Oxford University Press, $69).

World Without Mind: The Existential Threat of Big Tech by *Franklin Foer '96*. Foer, a national correspondent for *The Atlantic*, makes a case for challenging the power of Big Tech monopolies such as Facebook and Amazon (Penguin Press, $27).

Modern Hungers: Food and Power in Twentieth-Century Germany by *Alice Weinreb '99*. During WWI and WWII, many countries experimented with feeding — and starving — entire populations. The author shows how this was especially significant in Germany, which struggled with agricultural crisis at the same time it was becoming a military powerhouse (Oxford University Press, $55).

Butcher Paper by *Simeon Mills '00*. This graphic novel, available from a small boutique press in the Inland Northwest, "uses a straightforward visual vernacular to show you weird and impossible things that are nonetheless emotionally familiar" (Scabland Books, $15).

Crescendo: A Novel by *Amy Weiss '01*. A spiritual story about a woman who struggles to find meaning in her life after the sudden death of her husband (Hay House, $14.99).

The Epiphany Machine by *David Burr Gerrard '03*. A tragicomedy that provides an alternative history of New York City, shaped by a device that tattoos personalized, irreversible predictions on its users' forearms (Penguin Random House, $27).

The Light We Lost by *Jill Santopolo '03*. The author's debut novel tells the story of two Columbia seniors who meet and fall in love on 9-11 and spend the next decade being separated and reunited (G.P. Putnam's Sons, $25).

Katherine Dunham: Dance and the African Diaspora by *Joanna Dee Das '05*. Dunham was one of the first choreographers to conduct anthropological research about dance, which she translated into performance, education and scholarship (Oxford University Press, $34.95).

There Are More Beautiful Things Than Beyoncé by *Morgan Parker '10*. Parker's second collection of poetry offers perspective on what it means to be a black woman in America today (Tin House Books, $14.95).

—Jill C. Shomer

classnotes



CCT ARCHIVES

HEAVY LIFTING: Workers move the Baker Field lion statue in 1962 from its former home (now the soccer and baseball fields) to in front of Christie Field House.

1941

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

CCT is saddened to report the passing of **Wm. Theodore "Ted" de Bary** GSAS'53 on July 14, 2017, at his home in Tappan, N.Y. He was 97. Ted was a world-renowned Sinologist and spent close to 70 years at Columbia as a student, professor, provost and professor emeritus. Among his many accomplishments, he is credited with broadening the way colleges nationwide study Asia. Please see "Obituaries" in this issue for more on Ted's remarkable life and career.

Share your story, news or even a favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either the email address or postal address at the top of the column. Classmates would be pleased to hear from you.

1942

Melvin Hershkowitz
22 Northern Ave.
Northampton, MA 01060-2310
DrMelvin23@gmail.com

Looking through recent Class Notes for other classes, I have noticed that many friendships began with chance meetings on assigned dorm floors. This stimulated me to look back at my own dorm room assignments, and I herewith summarize my memories of long ago.

Freshman year, 1938–39, on 7 Jay. I was greeted by Alford "Pint" Marasca '41 with a warm hello and then a pseudo-aggressive comment with the F word, "F you, Mel." "Pint" was a low-weight member of the

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of *CCT* prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of *CCT*, its class correspondents, the College or the University.

wrestling team, and his nickname reflected his size. I saw very little of him after that. He had a career with J.P. Stevens and retired in California. I then met two pre-med students, Phil Greenberg '40 and Paul Bookstaver '40. They were studying organic chemistry and tried to explain to me the complexities of the Grignard reaction. Phil became a psychiatrist in Miami, Fla., and Paul became a prominent obstetrician in New Jersey, long after both had forgotten the Grignard reaction.

Sophomore year, 1939–40, on 4 Livingston. I shared a suite with **Herb Mark** and **Bob Kaufman.** We became lifelong friends. Herb became a distinguished physician, professor of medicine at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine and a VP of the American Heart Association. Bob was a lawyer (Yale Law) and VP and counsel for the ABC-TV Network, where he worked with Roone Arledge '52 to establish TV coverage of the Olympics and Monday Night Football. Herb died in 2006. Bob died in October 2016 at 95. I remain in touch with their widows, Avra Mark in Tuckahoe, N.Y., and Sue Kaufman in Scarsdale, N.Y. Sue called me on June 25 to report that the crew coaches and support staff have honored Bob's crew coxswain years, 1939–41, with large blue and white "RK" logos on the ends of the rowing shells. Across from our 4L suite was another one, inhabited by Hermon Farwell Jr. '40; Bob Loy '40, GSAS'49; and Chuck Webster '40, PS'43. Hermon (his father was our professor of physics) became a professor of speech and language; Bob became a professor of French; and Chuck (a big strong crewster) became a consulting cardiologist in San Francisco. All were friendly to us.

Junior year, 1940–41, on 5 Hartley. Around the corner from my room was a suite with roommates Paul Governali '43 and Len Kopeliovitch (later Len Koppett) '44. Paul was one of our greatest quarterbacks, winner of the Maxwell Award and an All-American. Len became a famous sports writer for *The New York Times*, an expert analyst of baseball and basketball. He wrote and edited several books, including *The Man in the Dugout*, an analysis of famous baseball managers. **George Boehn** occasionally appeared in our Hartley hallway, expressing his disapproval of certain events with an agitated repetition of the phrase "hot fire, hot fire." The meaning of this always eluded me. George became a well-known writer and magazine editor, working at *Newsweek* and *Fortune*, among others.

Senior year, 1941–42, on 5 Hartley. I met two of my lifelong best friends in Hartley: **Don Mankiewicz** and **Donald Dickinson.** Don Mankiewicz became a famous TV and Hollywood script writer. He won the 1955 Harper Prize for his novel *Trial* and was nominated for an Academy Award in 1958 for his screenplay *I Want to Live!* His father, Herman Mankiewicz (Class of 1917), worked in Hollywood for many years and was famous for writing *Citizen Kane* and *The Pride of the Yankees*, a film about Lou Gehrig '23. Don's uncle, Joseph Mankiewicz '28, was a famous Hollywood writer and director who won Academy Awards for *A Letter to Three Wives* and *Julius Caesar*. Don Mankiewicz died in April 2015 in California. Don Dickinson was a wounded, decorated WWII infantry officer in Europe. After the war, he settled in Las Vegas, where he lived the rest of his life, working as an executive in the casino industry until his death in December 2006. On December 7, 1941, I was in my room on 5 Hartley, listening to the Pro-Giants football game on my $25 Emerson radio, when the announcer reported the attack on Pearl Harbor. Fourteen members of our Class of 1942 were killed in WWII, including my friends **Phil Bayer** (a Marine officer, killed at Pelelieu) and **Roger Dounce** (an Air Force pilot, shot down in the Pacific campaign).

On June 27 I had a phone call from David Wellington, son of Dr. **Arthur Wellington,** to report that Arthur (97) is now in hospice care at the VA Community Living Center in Bath, N.Y. Art had previously lived at the Woodbrook Nursing Home in Elmira, N.Y., his hometown. I got on the phone with old pal Art, and we had a brief chat. His speech was a bit garbled, but coherent, and we reminisced briefly about our Columbia friends (**Don Mankiewicz, Don Dickinson** and **Chic Hoelzer**), all deceased and all members of our Certified Degenerate Horseplayers Club. Art was a Marine artillery officer in the Pacific in WWII, and returned to Columbia for his D.O. degree (1943). He had a long career as a prominent optometrist in Elmira. In 2003 my wife, Leslie (now deceased), and I had a wonderful vacation with Art and his wife, Marilynn, at their summer cottage in Tenants Harbor, Maine. We had not seen each other for many years, but had kept in touch via regular mail and occasional phone chats. Art, Dr. **Gerald Klingon** (96), **Stewart McIlvennan** LAW'48 (95) and this correspondent (94) are among the nonagenarian survivors in our Great Class of 1942.

Best wishes to all surviving members of our Great Class of 1942.

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

BC	Barnard College
BUS	Columbia Business School
CP	Pharmaceutical Sciences
DM	College of Dental Medicine
GS	School of General Studies
GSAPP	Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
JRN	Graduate School of Journalism
JTS	Jewish Theological Seminary
LAW	Columbia Law School
LS	Library Service
NRS	School of Nursing
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
PS	College of Physicians and Surgeons
SEAS	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SOA	School of the Arts
SPS	School of Professional Studies
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College
UTS	Union Theological Seminary



Dr. Melvin Hershkowitz '42 (far right) shared this photo of himself with his wife, Leslie Hershkowitz, and his lifelong friend Dr. Herbert Mark '42.

1943

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

G.J. D'Angio
201 S. 18th St., #1818
Philadelphia, PA 19103
dangio@earthlink.net

Members of the Class of '43: Please bring the rest of us up to date with your activities. **Bernie Weisberger**



A summer 2017 reunion between classmates occurred when Bernie Weisberger '43 (right) visited G.J. D'Angio '43 in Philadelphia.

and I try to keep these Class Notes moving. Your help is needed to leaven the dough.

G.J. D'Angio: "My 95th birthday bash on May 2 went off beautifully. Ten old friends dined together in a great Italian restaurant (La Buca — try it if ever in Philadelphia).

"My posture has changed. I am bent over and off-balance. Need a walker indoors and outdoors.

"My wife Audrey Evans' nephew and his wife arrived on May 22 for a week's stay. We went to New Castle, Del., for lunch in our favorite pub and reviewed the four-plus flag history of that memorable town. Peter Stuyvesant was once its governor. Dutch, Swedish, English and several American colonial and later United States banners have flapped in its wind; well worth a visit. It is unique in the United States — an English colonial seaport frozen in time.

"My granddaughter, Sara, and her family overlapped during the weekend. She was attending her 10th Class Day celebration at Bryn Mawr.

"One of the high points of the year was a visit by **Bernie Weisberger** in June. He was one of three overnight guests we had that week. One of the others came from Australia and the third from Massachusetts. Other U.K. family members were due in September. Our cost-free B&B is pretty popular. It is open to any CC'43 classmate who might come to Philly.

"Audrey and I went to Edmonton, Canada, later in June to visit the Ronald McDonald House there. She was part of the celebratory events scheduled for that weekend. The House is a remarkably successful operation — seldom seen so many smiling faces or heard so many happy treble yelps.

"The Fourth of July came and went. All in all, I would prefer George III and his government over what we have now. At least the king was not responsible for his insanities.

"A Columbia nugget — four remarkable Germans arrived in the U.S. in the mid-1880s, three with Columbia ties. Abraham Jacobi (1830–1919) has been called the 'father of American pediatrics.' He taught at the Columbia Medical Center. His professional legacy and heritage are carried on at the Jacobi Medical Center in NYC. Felix Adler (Class of 1870, 1851–1933) was a philosopher, theologian, ethicist and social reformer, and founded the Society of Ethical Culture. That international movement is still active today. Franz Boas (1858–1942), the father of anthropology, was a professor of that discipline at Columbia and the first in America. Carl C. Schurz (1829–1906), the only Gentile and non-Columbian in this group, became a noted publisher, lawyer, statesman, Army general during the Civil War and political figure. He was a U.S. senator from Missouri. Gracie Mansion, the official residence of the Mayor of New York City, is in Carl Schurz Park on the Upper East Side of Manhattan."

Bernie Weisberger: "Once more I take word processor in hand to record the doings of Chicago's brief and chilly springtime. It's a great place to live but climate is decidedly not one of its attractions. As usual, the time between my last report and this one seems to have whisked by, leaving me with great plans for writing — mainly making hefty progress on a personal memoir — plus other chores of organization unfulfilled. I did compose a couple of short anti-Trump posts for a favorite progressive-left wing website, and, more important in the long run, worked with my economist collaborator Marshall Steinbaum on a review-essay. It is slated to appear in the Fall issue of the *Journal of Economic Literature*. I continue to be gratified and even a touch amused that I can still make it into the pages of an academic publication so many years after I left classroom teaching. I used to toy with the idea of giving up writing at some point, but find that I just can't stop and in reality don't want to. Combined with other family and personal activities it sometimes gives me the feeling of running hard just to stay in place, but it's not bad as a recipe for survival in my 90s.

"My health has been OK for my years, though a weakening of my sense of balance has forced me off my bicycle, which I miss quite a lot. I can, however, still walk and once more can report that I finished the annual Father's Day 5-kilometer (3.1 miles) walk sponsored by the Evanston YWCA to raise funds for campaigns against hate crimes. I finished absolutely last but without stopping to rest, and had the slight mortification of crossing the finish line amid a bunch of pre-pubescent kids. They have a small, mile-long race of their own. It starts an hour and a quarter after the 5K walk on the theory that by then nobody would be sharing the road with them. Ho, ho! I would like to add that two of my great-grandchildren were among the young runners. I hope to have planted the seeds of long, healthy running careers in their lives by my example.

"Other family news includes the May graduation of my granddaughter Rebecca from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a master's in social work. There was also a late visit in June, first to Denver to visit my younger daughter and son-in-law and another granddaughter, Leah. From there I flew on to San Francisco for a day or two with granddaughter Abigail, now practicing law in Berkeley and specializing in handling the cases of asylum seekers. It is not an easy job in the current wave of anti-immigration sentiment. Makes me more proud of her than ever.

"It was my second trip of the month. June 5–8, I visited New York for meet-ups with old friends there, with a glorious finale. I came home by way of Philadelphia and had an overnight stay with Dr. **G.J. 'Dan' D'Angio** and his wife, Audrey Evans. Dan and I didn't know each other in our campus days, but have pretty well bonded over the years of being too often the sole contributors to the Class Notes. I'm looking at you, fellow classmates. To top it off, I treated myself to a roomette on the Capitol Limited train coming home, which, if timely arrival isn't of the essence, is a wonderfully pleasant way to travel.

"I had intended to share some memories of two of my great teachers at Columbia, Gilbert Highet and Jacques Barzun '27, GSAS'32, but I'll save them for next time.

"One final note: On the Fourth of July, I followed a custom of many years. Over breakfast here with my wife Rita's granddaughter, her husband and their three children I read the *Declaration of Independence* to them — or at least the opening and closing paragraphs. They explain why the colonists would no longer be denied the right of governing themselves, and solemnly pledging their lives, fortunes and sacred honor to carry out the Revolution. This despite the risk to their lives if the British defeated the colonists. I have been doing it ever since my own children were old enough to understand the basics. I thought it important to remind them that all of us have a responsibility when we reach voting age to keep that dream of freedom alive. More than ever this year, I am glad that I did it. So long for another 90 days or so."

1944

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Daniel Choy PS'49, the director of the Tinnitus Control Center in NYC and a consultant to The Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute, writes: "I turned 91 on May 29. After P&S I was in the USAF during the Korean War. In 1950, for the only citizens still alive after an atomic attack, and all suffering from second-degree burns, I invented a spray-on burn dressing, Aeroplast, which could be sprayed on an entire victim by an untrained rescuer in 5–10

minutes. It was first stocked by the Department of Defense, then bought by Helene Curtis in 1982 for $42 on the dollar.

"As I write this, on April 29, I have just offered my latest invention, a cure for predominant tone tinnitus (the first in 6,000 years) to the VA, which spends $2 billion on disability to 170,000 vets suffering from blast-induced tinnitus, which can be abolished by the Padden-Choy Procedure. I write this with the hope that one or more CC alumni have access to Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Jared Kushner, President Trump's son-in-law, who would be most influential in accepting my offer, which is backed by Dr. Lawrence Lustig, the Howard W. Smith Professor of Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery and chair, Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery at P&S."

CCT, and your classmates, would be happy to hear from more of you. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career, your travels or even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1945

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

CCT, and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you! Please share news about yourself, your family, your career, your travels or even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1946

Bernard Sunshine
165 W. 66th St., Apt. 12G
New York, NY 10023
bsuns1@gmail.com

No news for the Fall 2017 issue, but the Winter 2017–18 issue awaits your updates! Please do send a note to one of the addresses at the top of this column.

1947

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

CCT, and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you! Please share news about yourself, your family, your career, your travels or even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1948

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Ed Paul shared his first Class Note: "In every issue of *Columbia College Today,* I look for news on my 1948 (and nearby years) classmates. There seems to be less and less news of classmates in each succeeding issue. So I decided to help fill the void in our often-empty column by writing my first letter to Columbia in the 69 years since graduating. It's a short history of my collegiate and professional career … a tale of undergraduate elation followed by graduate gloom and eventual resurrection.

"I often think back on my four stimulating undergraduate years in Hamilton Hall. I majored in fine arts and English literature as a liberal arts preparation for a career in architecture. I reveled in the four years in the College and the brilliant lectures, seminars and colloquiums taught by the likes of Van Doren, Barzun, Edman, Krutch, Weaver, Davis, Casey, Chiappe and so forth. I assumed that four more graduate years in Columbia's Architecture School would be a continuation of that same kind of academic stimulation that the undergraduate Core Curriculum was. Unfortunately, that was not the case!

"After a frustrating year in the Architecture School, my lifelong dreams of becoming an architect, as was my father, were dashed by a dull, uninspiring and directionless faculty. I was completely discouraged by the meaningless curriculum and gave up my long-held dream of being an architect and went to work for a construction company. After a couple of years in various construction capacities I realized, despite my discouraging experience in Avery Hall, that I still wanted to be an architect. I met a wonderful Smith girl, Judy Page; had a whirlwind engagement; and got married in 1952, in true Columbia fashion, as all my attendants were classmates: **John Steeves** was my best man, and **Bernie Wishy, Sheldon Levy, George McKay** and **Cullen Keough** were the others.

"Even after my potentially career-ending experience in the Architecture School, I was still loyal to the College and to all my undergraduate activities and for many years was active in postgraduate College activities: running telethon fund drives, organizing class reunions, publishing the first Columbia class newsletter and so on. Judy, my loving wife, understood that, deep down, I loved Columbia College and that I shouldn't let my bad graduate experience interfere with my dream of becoming an architect. She was very supportive and encouraged me to try other schools.

"I was already 30. Time was of the essence, and, at Judy's urging, I applied to other architecture schools. Fortunately, I was accepted by Harvard, which had a much more up-to-date design philosophy, so I switched from 'Beaux Arts' Columbia to 'Bauhaus' Harvard. I thrived in the new and stimulating architecture atmosphere in Cambridge and earned my master's in three years.

"The difference between the two architecture schools was like night and day! I'm aware that the mediocre faculty that I had at Avery Hall in 1949 has transitioned through the years into a much more 'in tune' group and that the Architecture School is now first-rate, in keeping with Columbia's other excellent graduate schools (Law, P&S, Journalism, etc.).

"After three exhilarating years at Harvard, I went to work for an architectural firm in White Plains, N.Y., and did a couple of award-winning designs with them. I also moonlighted evenings and weekends in my Greenwich, Conn., home. I was very lucky in after-hours work, and my second moonlighting house (my own) was published in a centerfold feature article in the *New York Times Magazine* in February 1963. It was followed, in a couple of months, by a four-page spread in *House & Garden* magazine. After that unbelievable streak of good publicity, my phone rang constantly. I gave notice to the firm I was working for and started my own. It was a one-man practice that lasted for 45 years, during which time I designed more than 100 houses in Connecticut, New York and Rhode Island. Most of them are still in good condition, a few with original owners or progeny still living in them. Some have been torn down and replaced with mega mansions.

"Recently, our own house, built in 1959, was designated as a National Historic Landmark. A large bronze plaque was to be installed on the house this past summer. Several other of my earlier projects are being considered for 'landmarking' as outstanding (and surviving) examples of Mid-Century modern architecture. Better late than never!

"I'm in my 93rd year, reasonably healthy and still working on small jobs for friends and family. Judy and I, along with our four children, grandchildren and friends, celebrated our 65th year of a happy marriage in June.

"I'd love to hear from classmates and hope more of them write in. Don't wait for 69 years, as I have. *Tempus fugit!*"

Sylvain Bromberger wrote in, too: "Had my 93rd birthday in early July. Not bad, as long as I do not look in the mirror and others don't insist on helping. I recently spent 10 wonderful days in Paris, where friends and colleagues had organized a workshop in my honor at the École Normale Supérieure. I learned many things at the workshop about topics on which I have worked and in the course of stimulating exchanges with people I like and admire there. And then the Musée D'Orsay, the Seine Musicale, the intriguing restaurants that a friend had discovered, the great croissant *et cafe au lait* every

morning. Paris! The paper I gave will be my last. Writing it was ultimately rewarding, but I have had it with the anxiety that comes while getting things wrong umpteen times before they seem possibly right. Time to read some good novels and to learn about fields that interest me, about which I know too little.

"I am not in touch with anyone with whom I went to Columbia, but then I had no real sense of belonging to a specific class: Most of us were veterans discharged at different times trying to make up for the time spent fighting the war to end all wars. I recognize few if any of the names of people mentioned in this column, but best wishes to all still around."

Pianist **Dick Hyman** reports: "In April, I received an honorary doctorate from The Juilliard School. It was delivered in a full cap-and-gown ceremony at the school, and it was a genuine honor for me to be able to accept it."

Thank to those gentlemen who got in touch! *CCT*, and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you, too. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career, your travels or even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1949

John Weaver
2639 E. 11th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11235
wudchpr@gmail.com

Well, I guess it was too much to hope for that I would hear from more of you before the Fall issue Class Notes deadline. My email and my front door mail slot have been devoid of all but one communication.

I will pass on notice of that exception but I remain disappointed that nobody else has found the time or inclination to connect this time around. Please let us hear from you in time for the Winter 2017–18 issue. The days will be short and cold nights would certainly be warmed by your news, your recollections, your connection.

With regard to the one classmate from whom I received a communication: **George Intemann** wrote and we enjoyed a brief — but, nevertheless, spirited — exchange of emails. George has strong feelings with regard to the political climate that is roiling about with the new administration and how those feelings are reflected as he thinks about the College.

While it is not the place of this column to conduct a forum on these matters, I do welcome the communication and I respect the fact that a classmate has strong feelings and brings those feelings to our basic commonality, a deep and abiding caring for our alma mater.

That connection is alive and well in so many of us. Now, as we are of what has been referred to as advanced age, we have the luxury of a little more spare time. Take some of that time to let us hear from you.

1950

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

From **Arthur Thomas:** "I am most pleased to be remembered by *CCT*. My life at Columbia College was intense in terms of study and extracurricular activities on campus. My remembrance of my college life has been broadened by my wedding to Charlotte Harriau on the campus. I will be happy to hear from classmates at alt30@columbia.edu. I still think that professors and sports coaches are among those at the top of the totem pole; I honor and remember well my professors and sports coaches."

From **Gil Hermann:** "My wife, Jane, and I have given up our home of 43 years in Denver and have moved to an extremely nice retirement home just south of Denver in Highlands Ranch, Colo. Our two daughters remain close by in Denver. I noted with sadness the passing of one of the prominent members of the Class of '50, **Norman Dorsen.** We played basketball together at Columbia and later socialized frequently in Boston when he was attending Harvard Law and I was a surgical resident at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Norman had a most distinguished career as a civil rights lawyer. For details, sees his obituary in *The New York Times*." [Editor's note: Also see "Obituaries" in this issue.]

From **Ray Scalettar:** "Since I closed my office, Phyllis and I have been traveling a great deal and enjoy our hobby of visiting presidential libraries. Most recently we went to Texas to visit LBJ's, George H.W. Bush's and George W. Bush's libraries.

"I was honored recently to be promoted to clinical professor emeritus of medicine at the graduation for the George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences."

Thank you to all who wrote in this issue! Other Class of 1950 members, please do share your updates with *CCT* and your classmates by writing to either of the addresses at the top of this column.

1951

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Paul Miller sent a brief update: "We old folks have to watch our footing. Today [July 7], I arrived home from a two-month confinement in the hospital and rehab. No fun. A broken hip. Held me up from seeking a wife. Getting tired of being alone. It seems, however, that 43-year-old women are not interested in 90-year-old men. Still love Florida. A little hot in the summer but lake and pool help cool me."

"A couple of memories," says **Merritt Rhoad:** "Being the first class to retrieve the freshman beanie from the greased pole and beating Army 21–20! On the academic side, the appreciation of art and music gained from Humanities. The very rainy day our calculus teacher, Mr. Stein, stopped mid-lecture to wonder whether you got wetter walking or running through the rain, then developed a mathematical proof with the class, on the chalkboard, that it didn't make a difference. I've forgotten why, but I take my time in the rain, to enjoy it. I have had to surrender skiing and sell my Chesapeake Bay-based sailboat because of the loss of equilibrium due to peripheral neuropathy. However, I still volunteer as crew leader of the Structures Crew for the Friends of the Wissahickon. Life is good, and I am proud of being a member of the Class of 1951."

Marvin J. Berkman writes: "Recently celebrated my 88th birthday. I wonder how many of us are left. Last time I looked, I still hold the Columbia track record for the 200m Dash (21.14 seconds), and have for 67 years. It's listed in an article [found on Hepstrack.com, 'Can It Get to 100?', which asks] if it will last 100 years."

A few words from **Len Stoehr** on the passing of **Jim Lowe** (see "Obituaries," Spring 2017): "Greetings to Class of 1951 NROTC classmates and friends. Yesterday [July 10] was a beautiful day in the Washington, D.C., area. I drove to Arlington National Cemetery to attend Jim's funeral. The Roman Catholic service was held in the Old Post Chapel with 30–40 friends and family in attendance. The eulogy was given by Jim's oldest daughter. My hearing aids were acting up and I can't report on content, but, from the frequent bits of quiet laughter, I would say that she gave an excellent talk.

"Following the church service, Jim's coffin was loaded onto a caisson pulled by six gray horses and escorted by a sailor honor guard of two companies (about 50 men), and a Navy band. The graveside service was impressive with its ritual folding and presentation of the flag, the firing of both a cannon and a rifle squad salute, and the final sounding of taps. The Navy escort and the presentation of the flag were led by a flag officer (a rear admiral). All in all, I felt that the Navy did a very professional and moving job.

Ray Scalettar '50: "Phyllis and I have been traveling a great deal and enjoy our hobby of visiting presidential libraries. Most recently we went to Texas to visit LBJ's, George H.W. Bush's and George W. Bush's libraries."

"After the interment, the family hosted a wake at a local restaurant, which I did not attend. It was a long day and a fitting sendoff for Jim."

Nathan Kase PS'55 writes: "I apologize for my long silence and also this necessarily lengthy (and blatantly immodest) effort to repair my inexcusable lapse in communication with classmates. At 87, I must have won the genetic lottery (despite a decidedly toxic diet and lifestyle). However, because of admitted abuse of that gift and not certain whether a statute of limitations might apply in these matters, what follows is a comprehensive but condensed résumé of what's gone on in my professional and personal life.

"I am a lifelong academic clinician, educator and administrator. Through the years I have been (and still am) a full-time tenured professor of ob/gyn and reproductive science at the Yale School of Medicine and now at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, as well as a professor of medicine (endocrinology) also at Mount Sinai; chairman of two departments of ob/gyn (at Yale and Icahn); served two terms as dean of the Icahn School of Medicine, totaling 15 years; and two terms as interim CEO of Mount Sinai (total four years). I grudgingly gave up my active and fulfilling practice (40 years as a consultant in reproductive endocrinology and infertility) necessarily as I faced unique administrative challenges in my second tour as dean. Nevertheless, I maintain a full teaching schedule in reproductive endocrinology and infertility and related subjects year-round for students, residents, fellows and attendings in ob/gyn and medicine at three hospitals in the Mount Sinai Health System.

"I have published extensively, most prominently as editor and author of three major texts (each in multiple editions). I am a member of two active research groups — one examining the relationship between cholesterol and breast cancer, the other fetal epigenetic reprogramming in progeny of women with Polycystic Ovary Syndrome.

"I lost my dear wife, Judy, in 2013 after 58 years of marriage (and five years of 1950s pristine pre-marital courtship). She succumbed after a valiant fight against the relentless progression of stage 3 lung cancer. Judy was at once my lover, my best friend, my confidante and adviser, and severest but accurate critic. That void in my life has been partially filled by my interactions with our three children, nine adult grandchildren and a new increasingly important friend.

"What really prompted this submission? I had occasion recently to recall and detail the enormous influence that Professor Jacques Barzun '27, GSAS'32 had on me while I was an undergraduate. I try to emulate, however unsuccessfully, his elegant demeanor, intellect, rhetorical style and pervasive love of the Humanities to this day."

It was so nice to hear from these gentlemen! *CCT,* and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you as well. Please share news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory — using either the email or postal address at the top of the column.

1952

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Howard Hansen writes: "[See the nearby] photo, taken in 1951 in front of the Field House at Baker Field (as we knew it then). Of the eight Sigma Chi football teammates shown, sadly **Kermit Tracy** (at left), **Charlie McCann** LAW'55 (#60), **Tony Misho** (behind Charlie) and **Bob Schwegler** (#51) have passed on. As we grow older, relationships with teammates and old friends grow stronger. I feel blessed to have ongoing friendships with **Bill Wallace** (second from left), **Mel Sautter** (#69) and Bob Wallace '53, PS'57 (#82) — and their longtime spouses — to this day. I'm third from right (#35). My living fraternity brothers in this photo have career lifetime accomplishments worth noting, as they are most impressive.

"A brief summary of **Bill Wallace**'s career: Life insurance business agent, manager and director of agencies. He was chairman and CEO of Home Life of New York, instrumental in spearheading the first mutual insurance company merger with Phoenix Life Insurance Co. Bill became the national president of the General Agents and Managers Association as well as president of the American College (the industry academic institution in Pennsylvania). He received the industry's American College Huebner Gold Medal. In 1994 Bill received the industry's most prestigious honor — the John Newton Russell Memorial Award — for his sustained meritorious service.



Howard Hansen '52 submitted this photo of Sigma Chi football players in 1951. Left to right: Kermit Tracy '52, Bill Wallace '52, Charlie McCann '52, Tony Misho '52, Mel Sautter '52, Hansen, Bob Wallace '53 and Bob Schwegler '52.

"**Mel Sautter:** a colonel and career Marine (30 years). During the Cuban Missile Crisis, when Russia [tried to] install nuclear missiles in Cuba, Mel was flying his jet 'parked' (going back and forth) off the tip of Florida, waiting for orders to strike or return to base … wow!

"In Vietnam, he was commanding officer of the Red Devils Air Wing, where he survived 360 combat missions (73 of which were carrier-based) piloting an F8 fighter jet. Mel received the Distinguished Flying Cross with a bronze star. He was only one of two Marine aviators to log more than 2,000 F8 Crusader hours. He was awarded Top Gun in 1962 and received the highest score ever recorded for air-to-air gunnery in an F8 Crusader at 20,000 ft. and 30,000 ft. during competitive exercises.

"Mel's final tour of duty was as CO of MCAS Kaneohe, Hawaii, in charge of 6,000 personnel, 1978–81. He was awarded the Legion of Merit by the Secretary of the Navy for his services at Kaneohe.

"After retiring from the Navy, Mel was hired by Ross Perot to head up Electronic Data Systems in Montgomery, Ala., for 10 years. In 2003, he was elected a member of the Golden Eagles, a restricted pioneer Navy/Marine aviator association.

"Bob Wallace '53, PS'57 had a distinguished career as a physician. Bob always said that Coach Lou Little had a significant role in his being accepted into med school. Coach Little showed much interest in the subsequent careers of men who played for him.

"Bob interned at St. Vincent's in Manhattan and studied under Dr. Michael DeBakey and Dr. Denton Cooley in Houston. He went to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and in five years (at 37) he was named chair of the department of surgery, where he stayed from 1968 to 1979. In 1975 Bob represented the Mayo Clinic as part of a group that went to Russia to exchange ideas. He was the first surgeon in the nation to perform the Rastelli procedure to correct transposition of the great arteries with septal defect and pulmonary stenosis.

"Bob went 'back home' after 17 years at the Mayo Clinic to become chair of the Department of Surgery at Georgetown's School of Medicine; he became surgeon-in-chief of the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery. Bob has written more than 250 articles or book chapters. In 1995, in Boston, he was installed as president of the American Association of Thoracic Surgery. In 2008, he was honored as a recipient of the Mayo Clinic's Distinguished Alumni Award. In 2016, Bob and his wife, Betty, traveled to Moscow for him to receive the Bakulev Prize for his ongoing contributions to the field of cardiovascular surgery."

CCT also heard from **Joseph Di Palma,** who reports: "I was named as

a 2017 recipient of the Marquis Who's Who Lifetime Achievement Award. For additional information as to honors and accomplishments, Google 'Joseph Di Palma Who's Who.'"

Please send news to *CCT* through either of the addresses at the top of this column. We would love to hear from you!

1953

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Lew Robins
3200 Park Ave., Apt. 9C2
Bridgeport, CT 06604
lewrobins@aol.com

I hope that everyone had a pleasant summer, and I look forward to running your updates in the Winter 2017–18 issue. You can send your notes to either of the addresses at the top of this column; your classmates and I will be happy to hear from you. Be well and have a nice fall season.

1954

Bernd Brecher
35 Parkview Ave., Apt. 4G
Bronxville, NY 10708
brecherservices@aol.com

This quarter our class heard from several members who had not previously gotten in touch, and perhaps even were out of touch with Columbia or the class for a long time. Welcome back; you were missed. Some others of you have become regulars in these Class Notes, and it is a great joy to keep up to date with you and your accomplishments. The only correspondence we do not appreciate is the one not sent.

In response to my observations about our nation's condition in this first year of Trump and my request to send me your own observations, **Harold Stevelman** PS'58 (was he always a man to cut quickly to the chase?) wanted to share with us the following: "Democracy will prevail as long as we have a free press and the rule of law."

A take of a different kind, about his life and family, was transmitted by **Bennett Aaron** LAW'57: "It's hard to believe that 63 years have elapsed since I graduated in 1954. Carol and I recently celebrated our 62nd wedding anniversary and she remembers attending the graduation, which took place prior to our marriage. Since that time, many good things have happened in our lives. We have four children and eight grandchildren. They are all doing fine and leading interesting lives. Our eldest son, Morrie, and his wife, Carrie, recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. They live in Phoenix, where they raised their three children. Our other son, Steven, and his wife, Lisa, live in Harrisburg, Pa. They have raised two terrific children. Our eldest daughter, Margie, and her husband are in the process of moving to Santa Fe, where our son-in-law has a new job.

"After college, I enrolled at the Law School and graduated in 1957. Carol is a native Philadelphian, which is the reason we moved to Philadelphia following law school and military service. Philadelphia has been a great place to live. We enjoyed raising the family here. I've also had the opportunity to develop a successful legal practice specializing in estate planning and wealth transfer. Over the past 40 years, Carol has been very successful as a residential real estate agent."

Bennett also took leadership positions in numerous philanthropic programs, focusing mainly on the Jewish community in Philadelphia and on Israel. He was president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia (1984–87) and thereafter spent 14 years serving on the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel. He chaired the United Israel Appeal 1999–2003. He says, "Now I am deeply interested in learning more about what has transpired in the lives of my classmates since 1954."

OK, gents, there is your formal invitation … my mailbox awaits.

Bill Burleigh believes that he is "the last man standing of the Utah contingent that attended Columbia in the early 1950s. Gone now are Mitch Price '53, Bill Jackson '52, **Dick Wall,** Cal Jenkins '55, Ward Armstrong '57 and others. I got to thinking of the great times we had together. We used to travel by train together to and from Salt Lake City to NYC. It would take us two and a half days just to travel one way. At Christmastime we would save all of our allowed absences from classes (we called them 'cuts') and missed a full week of school in order to have a little time at home at that time of the year."

Bill, ain't nostalgia transformative? I still have someplace a teabag-size souvenir of salt from the Great Salt Lake, distributed aboard the train as we zoomed from San Francisco to New York along the lakeshore. The year was 1940, my arrival in America via many boats and trains, including the Trans-Siberian Express.

Bill remembers how "we formed a great fellowship during that time and in our years together at the College. And we made many great friends at Columbia that form precious memories. So 'Hello and God Bless' to all of you classmates who are still standing."

Now there's a challenge to all of us not prone. Thanks, Bill.

Bernd Brecher '54: "I still have someplace a teabag-size souvenir of salt from the Great Salt Lake, distributed aboard the train as we zoomed from San Francisco to New York along the lakeshore."

Ted Spiegel, our class' photographer supreme whose photo of JFK is on a recently issued U.S. stamp, wants us to know that, "caught up in the spirit of John Kennedy's 100th birthday and knocked down by issues surrounding leadership in our nation, I joined forces with a musically talented friend, Marc Black, to compose 'The Kennedy Stamp Song,' now playing on YouTube. I invite my classmates to listen in on JFK and invite their family and friends to join in the chorus."

Another Oscar Hammerstein II (Class of 1916) in our midst?

Fritz Schlereth SEAS'56 and a colleague from the Syracuse University chemistry department have started a company, MolecuSense, to bring his sensor patent to market. They are in the process of building a model and looking for financing. "There's still time for running," he reports, "although I'm currently sidelined with a sore muscle. It's a bummer because I recently entered a new age group and was looking forward to winning some races again."

If the past is prelude, we know Fritz will be on the track by the time this item appears in *CCT*. GO!

In honor of **Richard Bernstein** SEAS'55's 83rd birthday, 100 members of Type One Grit (a group for diabetics who follow Richard's methods for managing blood sugars) from around the world, of all ages, have put together a testimonial video detailing their life-changing experiences using Dr. B's approach to attaining normal, healthy blood sugars and expressing their deep gratitude for his devotion to all diabetics. His contributions to diabetes research and treatment continue apace.

Congratulations, Dick, on your birthday (young as you are) and on your medical successes.

Alvin Hellerstein LAW'56 continues to make rulings that in turn make headlines and are fully covered in *The New York Times*. "City Law Illegally Promoted Unionization, Judge Rules," was the head on an article published last June. "The 11-page ruling by Judge Hellerstein of Federal District Court in Manhattan found that the city had overstepped its bounds in requiring, as part of a licensing process, that carwash owners buy a special bond within a two-tiered system ..." the story said, and that the judge ruled that the city law "violated federal law."

Google the complete article, which is full of the kind of legal, social and political observations that always hook my layman's inquiring mind.

As for me (**Bernd Brecher** JRN'55), the deciders at *CCT* have launched a new weekly web post called "Take Five," and asked me to join in the fun. This involves five questions about our College days and their effect on our lives. The following is my response to question three, which asked "What class do you still remember and why?"

I wrote, "Several classes never leave my memory, including Colloquium with Moses Hadas; writing seminar with Quentin Anderson; the English poets with George Nobbe; several English, theater and humanities courses with Joseph Wood Krutch, Lionel Trilling, Mark Van Doren and other academic giants; and modern American lit with Fred Dupee ('modern American literature is about man's search for his father'—think about that). I have a very special feeling for Jimmy Shenton's class on American history, where you were in for a treat — one day the professor would be dressed up as and acting out Ben Franklin, another day he would be very F. Scott Fitzgerald-ish, dressed in a raccoon coat and boater, waving a college flag while roaring '20s music blared from a Victrola on a corner of his desk. (Jim became a regular at all our alumni reunions.) All of these great teachers brought their love of education and the world to the classroom every day, and their students felt it to their core.

"There were many more, but I have to mention a non-teacher who taught me much about education, community, people and Columbia: Joe Coffee, a member of the Class of 1941 and the founder and first director of the Columbia College Fund and an out-of-class mentor to so many of us. As I write this I learned of the passing of Ted de Bary, also CC'41, whom I never had as a teacher while an undergrad, but whose classes, lectures and seminars I participated in since graduation. He was indeed a 'continuation' of all that was great about Columbia College education; he was also a speaker at many of our reunions. I will always remember him as Columbia's man for all seasons."

Go to "Take Five" online at bit.ly/2hfMVo6 and see the full response, but meanwhile — for the next Class Notes — let me hear about some of your own memories of favorite classes.

In the Winter 2017–18 issue, I will report on an invitational visit to a special event in Halberstadt, Germany, that Helen and I will attend this September. It is where I was born and where my family lived until shortly before the outbreak of WWII and the full blast of the Holocaust. Our granddaughter Maya, who recently graduated from Oberlin College, will come along to make a documentary. Stay tuned.

Remember the dates for our 65th reunion! Mark your calendars for the tentative weekend of Thursday, May 30–Saturday, June 1, 2019. Also — while the pay isn't great, the rewards are priceless — please join our still-growing Reunion Committee. Wherever you live, whatever you do, we need you. Email me for info.

For now, as always, be well, do nice things for others, write/email/call often, with all my best, much luv, Bernd. EXCELSIOR!

1955

Gerald Sherwin
181 E. 73rd St., Apt. 6A
New York, NY 10021
gs481@juno.com

As the end of the summer reaches its climax, there are many classmates who have done yeoman's work in terms of fundraising, hosting events and other activities.

Jerry Catuzzi and **Ben Kaplan** are making plans to travel overseas. **George Christie** is in North Carolina, **Larry Balfus** is on Long Island and **Herb Cohen** is in the Bronx. **Jack Freeman** and **Ron McPhee** are involved with alumni sports (especially baseball). **Ralph Wagner** is in New England. **Bob Brown** is in Manhattan. **Ezra Levin** and **Roland Plottel**, stalwarts of the class, are in New York. **Ted Baker** is putting together the list of Ford Foundation members. **Alfred Gollomp** and **Don Laufer** are coordinating the Class of 1955 dinner list.

Unfortunately, **Bill Epstein** is on the injured list and may not be able to make the first event. **Paul Frank** has reached us from afar (Connecticut). **Bob Bernot** is noted to be looking at the Columbia basketball schedule.

Congratulations again to **Allen Hyman** for receiving an Alumni Medal in front of his friends and relatives at Commencement. Toni Coffee BC'56 sent him congratulations. There were more than 50,000 attendees at this major event.

We heard from **Elliott Manning** at the University of Miami. A force of the class and attendee at the 60th reunion was **Beryl Nusbaum.** Representing the class at other events is **Lew Mendelson,** especially in the Washington, D.C., area.

Roger Stern's grandson attended a Columbia basketball camp, a prospect at 6-foot-7 — "Can't teach height," as they say.

An invigorated attendee is **Elliot Gross** — a worthy representative.

Anthony Viscusi has played a significant role in the development of our class. Other guys from around the country have also made their mark. A Class of 1955 member from the West Coast is **Jeff Broido.** Still practicing in Westchester is **Jud Maze.**

The five-year alumni cycle is halfway through. It's not too late to get involved in planning for Reunion 2020. Stay on top of things; everybody should be involved! Attend events — no matter where — diet, support, participate, smile.

Good guys are winners.

Love to all! Everywhere!



Former Columbia baseball captains Tom Vasell '62 (far left) and Charles Brown '56 (far right) teed up in Palm Beach, Fla. Joining them were their wives, Kathie Vasell (second from left) and Carole Brown (second from right).

1956

Robert Siroty
707 Thistle Hill Ln.
Somerset, NJ 08873
rrs76@columbia.edu

A great luncheon at Faculty House in April was followed by a wonderful All-Class Reunion (formerly called Dean's Day) on campus in June. **Peter Klein, Bob Lauterborn, Jordan Bonfante, Alan Broadwin,** Elinor and **Dan Link, Al Franco SEAS'56, John Censor, Ralph Kaslik, Stephen Easton** and I were able to snatch a table for ourselves. The keynote speaker was Dr. Richard Axel '67, a Nobel Laureate. The Alumni Representative Committee reception later in the afternoon was notable for an excellence award to yours truly.

I heard from **Lionel Deutsch,** who has retired from the Woodstock Therapy Center and has moved to 309 Batham Lane, Ironton, OH 45638.

Ed Botwinick SEAS'58 writes that he and his wife, Vicki, were to move to Earlysville, Va., in late June. Ed is recovering from lower back surgery in NYC.

I recently learned of the death of **Robert Pearlman** SEAS'55, SEAS'56 on May 21, 2017, after a long illness.

Have a good fall and keep the info flowing to the addresses at the top of this column.

1957

Herman Levy
7322 Rockford Dr.
Falls Church, VA 22043
hdlleditor@aol.com

Lawrence Merrion: "My wife, Judy, and I live in Concord, Calif., where our children and grandchildren are



At All-Class Reunion 2017, held on June 3, Class of 1956 members claimed a whole table. Attending were Peter Klein, Bob Lauterborn, Jordan Bonfante, Alan Broadwin, Dan Link and his wife, Elinor, Al Franco SEAS'56, John Censor, Ralph Kaslick, Stephen Easton and Robert Siroty.

nearby. We travel a bit and are planning our next trip to Italy for the fall."

Lawrence is a retired architect.

Bill Schwartzman died in San Francisco on April 25. The obituary in the *San Francisco Chronicle* suggested that memorial contributions be made to the Jewish Home of San Francisco, 302 Silver Ave., San Francisco, CA 94112.

The principal occurrence of the quarter was our 60th class reunion, held June 1–4. Yours truly served on the Reunion Committee with **Jim Barker, Jerry Finkel, Dan Davidson, Alvin Kass, Carlos Muñoz, Paul Frommer** and **Alan Zuckerman**. Under the able leadership of Peter Pallotta, assistant director, alumni relations, we put together a three-day program of CC'57 events, which were interspersed among various all-class events, events for other reunion classes, Mini-Core Classes and lectures, and the farewell brunch on Sunday.

Twenty-four of us, plus wives and guests, attended at least one of the class-specific events, a smaller number than we had hoped — a thought also expressed by **Gene Wagner** and **John Taussig**. Nevertheless, for those who attended, reunion was both pleasant and memorable.

I began the festivities with a Thursday visit to the Hamilton Grange, Alexander Hamilton's federal-style home in Harlem, on West 141st Street, half a block east of Convent Avenue. The National Park Service provided an excellent tour of the home, with its fine collection of furniture, silverware, chinaware and glassware. Although small compared to Mount Vernon and Monticello, in its time the Grange was considered a fine home. It was about a 90-minute carriage drive on unpaved roads from the downtown New York of its day.

Thursday evening, CC'57 had its first class reception, a dinner at Del Frisco's. Following dinner, we had a choice of attending *The Golden Cockerel* (American Ballet Theatre), *Anastasia* or *Waitress*. Judy and **Gary Angleberger** and I went to *Anastasia,* a musical version of the legend of the Romanov princess alleged to have been her family's sole survivor of the massacre by the Bolsheviks. The musical was inspired by the film from our Columbia days, which starred Ingrid Bergman and Yul Brynner.

Friday began with a Columbia College Alumni Association welcome breakfast in Low Library. Several Mini-Core Classes followed, as well as two tours. **Dan Davidson** and I selected "Radical Rationalism," taught by Associate Professor of History Neslihan Senocak. Professor Senocak observed that the Middle Ages (the period between the Roman Empire and the Renaissance) is a modern concept rather than a contemporary one. Indeed, the reunion booklet noted that "medieval scholastic thought was actually a radical form of rationalism." Professor Senocak discussed, among others, Thomas Aquinas, Maimonides (*The Guide for the Perplexed*) and Ibn Rushd (*Averroes*). An all-class luncheon followed on Low Plaza.

After lunch I attended "Jazz Around the World," taught by Kevin Fellezs. Professor Fellezs observed that jazz is a paradox, fundamentally human, extending all across America, not limited to blacks, from New Orleans's Storyville on. It spread the world over, to such places as Russia (where it was championed as the voice of the people), France ("Le Jazz Hot"), Shanghai, Japan, Brazil (influence on the samba and the bossa nova) and South Africa (based on township music). Professor Fellezs played several jazz recordings from various countries. He concluded that jazz has been hybridized the world over.

I then attended "Tax Reform — Washington Insights and Out-of-Sights" with Conrad Teitell LAW'57. The reunion program email described Mr. Teitell as "a practicing attorney, a prodigious lecturer, a prolific writer and a professor of law [who] has helped draft and shape tax legislation and has testified before the House Ways and Means Committee, the House Judiciary Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service."

Regarding what is on the table, Mr. Teitell said "salami tactics," i.e., taking one slice at a time rather than grabbing the whole at once — he cited as an example of this the alternative minimum tax, a way to effectively increase the percentage of the income tax without actually doing so.

On Friday evening CC'57 held a dinner in Butler Library.

Saturday morning began with the Dean's Breakfast in the Low Rotunda. Dean James J. Valentini gave the annual State of the College address and shared updates on new initiatives. I then attended the reunion keynote address by Dr. Richard Axel '67: *Scents and Sensibility: The Fascinating Relationship Between the Brain and Smell.* Dr. Axel is a Nobel Prize winner, a University Professor and an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Columbia University.

Then CC'57 held a class luncheon in the Casa Italiana library. The speaker was Austin Quigley, dean emeritus of the College and the Brander Matthews Professor of Dramatic Literature. He spoke on recent developments at the College, notably on diversity. Following the luncheon, I went to hear Julie Crawford, the Mark Van Doren Professor of Humanities and the Paul Brooke Program Chair for Literature Humanities, lecture on "Resistance to Authority in Shakespeare's *Othello.*" Professor Crawford's handout began with passages from other authors on the subject of wifely duty of obedience to her husband, and then proceeded to a number of passages from *Othello* leading up to Othello's stifling of Desdemona and the tragic aftermath. Professor Crawford also mentioned Kate in *The Taming of the Shrew.* The lecture recalled Professor Andrew Chiappe '33's, GSAS'39's most memorable course in Shakespeare; I have been a Shakespeare buff ever since.

Shortly before our final class dinner, Rabbi **Alvin Kass,** daughter Sarah Kass '87 and I met for the Wine Tasting. **Mac Gimse** was scheduled to read his poem "Every Life Matters," which he based on our alma mater, *Sans Souci*, at our Saturday dinner to honor our deceased classmates; his wife's illness, however, prevented him from attending our reunion. I read Mac's poem aloud, leading those present in joining the refrain, "Every Life Matters." **Steve Fybish** concluded the evening by leading us in singing *Sans Souci,* as Mac wished.

At the farewell brunch, Avivah and **Gabriel Pinski, Ron Kushner,** Sandy and **Yitzhak Sharon** and daughter Dina, **Alan Zuckerman** and I said goodbye, ending a pleasant and memorable reunion.

Gary Angleberger: "My wife (the Rev. Judy A. Angleberger) accompanied me to our 60th class reunion, and we had a wonderful time



During their 60th reunion, members of the Class of 1957 enjoyed the chance to catch up. Left to right: Yitzhak Sharon, Lewis Schainuck, Herman Levy and Gabriel Pinski.

Contact CCT

Update your contact information; submit a Class Note, Class Notes or wedding photo, obituary or Letter to the Editor; or send us an email. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

interacting with most of the other class members who attended part or all of the reunion activities. I, a Presbyterian clergyperson like my wife, always look forward to a conversation with Rabbi **Alvin Kass.** We share observations about the congregations we serve — his pre-retirement times in his synagogue in Brooklyn and my experiences as a pastor and church administrator. There's also talk with Paul Taormina '56, SEAS'57 about our days playing in the infield of the Columbia baseball team and with **Jim Barker** about business and politics and reflections on 'back then days' as CC students in the late mid-'50s. There's always some conversation with **Herman Levy** about life in general, usually ending up with us together at a dinner and [this time] at the theater for the *Anastasia* musical. Two extra days in [NYC] introduced us to The Tenement Museum on the Lower East Side, and a Sunday morning to worship in the midst of the impressive gothic architectural style and wonderful music at the Riverside Church. The sermon was well delivered and drew applause (quite an unusual response in our experience) from the multi-national and multi-racial congregation."

Yitzhak Sharon: "It was really heartwarming to see old friends again at our 60th reunion. Everyone looked so well and so young! It was fascinating to have each of us talk briefly about himself at the Saturday dinner. It was clear how much Columbia shaped our lives."

John Taussig: "My wife, Jan, and I attended our class reunion and thoroughly enjoyed the overall experience. Coming back to the campus always brings back memories for me. And most of them are even worthwhile. The events were fine and well planned as they each served as vehicles for talking and catching up with classmates from 60-plus years ago.

"My singular disappointment was the attendance. Only [24] showed up. Where were you guys?

"It's mostly about memories for me now and making new ones. Our ninth decade is a reality check for each of us. I believe that rekindling important memories helps to keep us going. Eyesight? I need to put on old glasses to find my new glasses. Hearing? The only real sound I hear when I get new hearing aids are my screams when I get the bill. Cognitive issues? I don't remember. Sex? I do have an appropriate comment here but am sure it would never pass Herman's careful edit scrutiny. But am certain you can fill in the blanks, so to speak.

"Carlos mentioned to me that we might have a 65th reunion. I hope so. More memories. I'll be there. Will you?"

1958

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Barry Dickman
25 Main St.
Court Plaza North, Ste 104
Hackensack, NJ 07601
bdickmanesq@gmail.com

Rick Brous submitted this multi-generational saga, pre-2017 Commencement: "I have been given the honor of being one of the 'Anniversary Marchers' at Columbia's upcoming Commencement ceremony this year. In 1917, 100 years ago, my dad, Leonard Brous (Class of 1917), graduated from Columbia College! I plan to wear a sign with his picture and the year he graduated [on one side, and on the other] 1917 my dad; 1958 me; 1995 my daughter; 1998 my son; 2023–31 my grandchildren? … As one of only five Alumni Medalists in California I am very proud to be part of the Columbia family."

Rick's son is Michael Brous '98; his daughter is Rabbi Sharon Brous '95, GSAS'01, whose accomplishments we have previously reported.

I ♥ John Giorno, the exhibition featuring **John Giorno**'s work that was first presented in Paris, came home to New York this summer. Staged by Ugo Rondinone, a Swiss artist who has been John's partner for almost two decades, it was divided among 13 city venues, including High Line Art, the New Museum, the Rubin Museum of Art and the Hunter College Art Galleries. As reported in this column at the time of the Paris opening, the exhibition included pieces from John's extensive archive (both poetry and paintings), as well as contributions by his collaborators and artifacts like William Burroughs' typewriter; the author lived in John's East Village home in the '70s. One highlight: The bed in which John slept for five hours while Andy Warhol shot his 1963 movie *Sleep*, which was screened as part of the exhibition at the Swiss Institute.

Ernie Brod forwarded the following (unattributed, but we tracked it down to a letter to the editor of *The Economist*), written by one of your classmates: "I was delighted to read Johnson's column on trying to find a gender-neutral pronoun (April 1). As he said, the *Oxford English Dictionary*'s first use of a sex-neutral, indefinite 'they' was about 1375. For some mysterious reason, school marms and style manuals decided that the epicene 'they' was ungrammatical. As a result, people began saying truly ungrammatical sentences such as 'Everybody likes pizza, doesn't he or she?' in an attempt to sound correct. They failed. I wrote about this subject in an essay that appeared in American Speech in 1982." — **George Jochnowitz** GSAS'67, professor emeritus of linguistics at the CUNY's College of Staten Island.

And in the spring there was a heads-up from **Joe Dorinson:** "Dear friends and *mishpoche*: Optimum's Channel 222 (MLB) aired a Jackie Robinson special program, *Letters from Jackie*, to which I contribute some insights as a 'talking head.' It is a fascinating study of an authentic American hero. In this era of fake news and alternate reality, it is refreshing to recall this great man and his important legacy during the Easter/Passover holidays."

The class lunch is held on the second Tuesday of every month in the Grill at the Princeton Club of New York, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). Email Art Radin if you plan to attend, up to the day before: arthur.radin@janoverllc.com.

I ♥ John Giorno, *the exhibition featuring John Giorno '58's work that was first presented in Paris, came home to New York this past summer.*

1959

Norman Gelfand
c/o *CCT*
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
nmgc59@gmail.com

CCT has reduced the hole for our class to 1,500 words and consequently I cannot include all your submissions in this issue. My apologies to **David Horowitz, Eric Jakobsson** and **Bernie Pucker.** Their contributions will appear in our next submission.

Franklin "Frank" Carroll, in Lakeland, Fla. (fcar507374@msn.com, 863-815-8649), writes, "I did the apprentice teacher assignment at Horace Mann School for Boys in the Bronx. I was the only CC student who completed the assignment. We were discouraged by the HM instructors, but as I was considering leaving, one of their instructors had a heart attack and I filled in.

"I played freshman football, but was not a starter. I became friends with **Hagop 'Jack' Merjian,** who was attempting to restart Columbia's soccer program (it had been dropped during WWII). We started as a club, and soccer was reinstated as a varsity club during the 1958–59 school year. I wasn't that good and never started a varsity match, but did sub. However, I learned a lot. Again, considering the success Columbia soccer has had in recent years, it is significant that the reinstated varsity program was made possible by the effort of the Class of '59 — Jack, some good foreign students, some American players who had played in high school and one aspirant (me). The quality improved when varsity status was granted for the '58 season; Joe Molder was our coach. Jack became the headmaster at the Pomfret School in Pomfret, Conn. Can anyone provide information on how to get in touch with him?



A group of Class of 1959 alumni get together every fall in the Northeast. Last year's gathering featured (seated, left to right): Roald Hoffmann, Ed Wolpow, Paul Kantor, Martin Geller and Jerry Goodisman. Standing: Bill Zangwill.

"When I came back to Indiana, I became a high school teacher. I am credited with creating and teaching the first, last and only black history high school course taught in Indiana. The state decided to only include the subject as a portion of the regular history classes. Oddly enough, when I was completing the last week of the course, I was offered a position at Ball State University to help it create a course of study in minority relations, which led to an additional master's; I declined the offer as I was by that point well-established in my school system and was the father of five.

"I helped create the high school soccer program in Northern Indiana, which in turn was helpful in the creation of soccer as a high school sport in the state. I became an NCAA soccer official. I later became a certified referee instructor; this allowed us to create certified and paid referees for both the youth and high school programs.

"I became the president of the Northwest Indiana Youth Soccer Club and helped raise the number of participants from approximately 300 to more than 3,000. I created the first indoor soccer season in the state. I was the soccer coach at Purdue University Calumet for 13 seasons, making the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics playoffs in nine of those seasons. I am in the Hammond, Ind., and Purdue University Northwest Sports Halls of Fame.

"We moved to Florida in 2000. The Hammond area was part of the 'Rust Belt' (I worked several summers in the steel mills while I was in college and as my family grew and until my wife graduated from Purdue as a nurse). Hammond had five high schools when I went there in 1961 (I taught in Gary for two years after graduation). But after 37 years in Hammond, the city's population decreased by 25 percent and it was decided to close one high school. They made a great offer to retire early; I was one of 72 who accepted.

"My oldest son runs a messenger service in Minneapolis. My second son has a great job in the legal publishing industry and lives in Irving Park in Chi-Town. My oldest daughter died of cancer at 18. My next daughter worked with horses for many years, but is now a dealer at a casino in Cincinnati. My youngest daughter teaches at Indiana University Northwest (Gary). I have four grandchildren: one in advertising in Minnesota; one runs a bar/restaurant in Orlando; and two live in Indianapolis — one works for the welfare department, the other teaches high school chemistry. I also have two great-grandchildren.

"I have tried to keep busy. I worked for 15 years as a substitute teacher for Polk County. I served on the Board of Directors for our senior park, edited our community monthly paper and volunteered for the sporting programs at Walt Disney World. I started as a water worker for the Disney Marathon and became a team leader for several events, including the Special Olympics, track meets (college and the North American AAU championships), full and half marathon weekends (four a year), golf tournaments and so on. I was the team leader for the target shooting event for the last Great Outdoor Games ESPN program in 2005. That was the year five hurricanes hit Florida. ESPN has not held this event since then.

"My most emotional service was as parade marshal and liaison for the Australian team during the Invictus Games (sporting events for wounded warriors from 14 nations allied with the United States in wars in the Middle East), held at Walt Disney World in May 2016."

From **Michael P. Zimmerman** GSAS'63: "Some good news for the Class of '59 in these crazy-making times. My book, *Tyrants of the Heart: A Psychoanalytic Study of Mothers and Maternal Images in James Joyce*, will come out in the late summer or fall and will be available on Amazon. Classmates will find that I've referred to Lionel Trilling '25, GSAS'38 in my discussion of Joyce in his letters (Chapter VII and Epilogue) and to Andrew Chiappe '33, GSAS'39's unforgettable Shakespeare course when I use 'Venus and Adonis' to unpack the complex symbolism where Leopold Bloom and Stephen Daedalus simultaneously stare into a mirror in Bella Cohen's brothel and see that their joint image is a raging Shakespeare, hardly Professor Chiappe's Shakespeare (Chapter V).

"More good news: My wife, Lily Iona MacKenzie, and I planned to vacation in France (Provence, the Dordogne, the Loire Valley and Paris) in June and July. Lily's novel, *Fling!*, was published last year. This year, her second novel, *Curva Peligrosa*, is scheduled to appear in August and her third, *FreeFall: A Divine Comedy*, in 2018. We're going to have a joint book launch at our favorite restaurant in Richmond, Calif., in October.

"Even more: Our oldest grandchildren, Jonah and his twin sister, Esme, are going to college here, in the United States (they were born and raised in London). Jonah is going to Princeton, where he will star on the soccer — oops, to use the word he prefers, football — team. Esme will go to Wesleyan, where I hope she'll continue concertizing with her violin and still manage to take time off for her earlier love, the tennis courts. Their younger brother, Milo, also quite a violinist, will attend the Friends Seminary in NYC.

"Roar Lion Roar! Vive la France! Vive M. le Président Emmanuel Macron!"

Morty Klevan: "It's hard to believe that it's nearly 60 years since we graduated from Columbia. Aside from providing me with a first-class education, the College gave me lifelong friends — **Harvey Leifert**, whom I have lunch with once a week; **Isser Woloch**, whom I see each time I go New York to be tested at Memorial Sloan Kettering to make sure my multiple myeloma is under control (it is); **Bennet Silverman**, and, more by phone because of distance, **Ken Scheffel** and **Jerry Wacks.** My life today is pretty low key. Aside from working in political campaigns as a volunteer (most recently in Chris Van Hollen's successful Democratic primary campaign) and as volunteer guide at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, I spend a lot of time watching and exulting in the Nationals' superb starting pitchers and position players, and bemoaning the state of their relief pitching. I planned to take a two-week break from watching the Nationals in September, as Carla (my wife of 54 years) and I go to Iceland and Sweden for a short vacation."

Jay Neugeboren was profiled in *Numero Cinq Magazine*. You can read the article online: bit.ly/2uhhECF.

It will surprise no one that **Steve Trachtenberg** has been busy. He and I spent some pleasant time talking while he was in Chicago. He writes, "I'm back from Malta, Spain and England. Did laundry and came to Martha's Vineyard. I'm in Vineyard Haven. Planned to be in San Diego with all my kids in July. In August planned to go to the Arctic to see the elk migration. Buying Yukon clothes in preparation. Boots. Mittens. Socks. Excited."

A link to the local newspaper on Martha's Vineyard shows that Steve is still making his opinions known.

Norman Gelfand, thanks to his daughter, is now the grandfather of his first grandson. He has two fantastic granddaughters. His youngest son has no children, which is probably for the best as he is not married yet, but he does have two NBA championship rings.

1960

Robert A. Machleder
69-37 Fleet St.
Forest Hills, NY 11375
rmachleder@aol.com

Twenty-seven years ago a tradition was born. The year was 1990 and, following our 30th reunion, members of the class decided to gather for lunch at noon on the first Thursday of the month. That tradition continues to this day. The passage of time — with the inevitability of retirement reloca-

tions, conflicting obligations, death and infirmity — has taken its toll on our attendance.

Our first restaurant, Michael's Pub, was an institution on East 55th Street with a 30-year history at that location, famous for its evening performances of jazz and blues. We experienced neither the jazz nor the blues, but the food at noon was good.

Michael's closed its doors in 1996. We proceeded to patronize, in succession, two restaurants on West 57th Street. Each, in turn, closed its doors. We remember them fondly, but just as with old flames and acquaintances, it is not surprising that now we struggle unsuccessfully to recall their names.

There might have been another restaurant or two that we closed, as the lifespan for restaurants in New York often is brief, and memories at our age are fragile and not entirely reliable. And so, it was a fortuitous event when the Columbia University Club of New York, which had no facility of its own, joined the Princeton Club as "in residence" and we found a home lo these many years at 15 W. 43rd St., in the club's Grill, originally located on the first floor and then moved to the third.

The union between Columbia and Princeton lasted until recently when irreconcilable differences, or whatever transpires when two such institutions try to coexist under the same roof, caused the relationship to dissolve and the Columbia University Club was wooed to join the Penn Club, one block over, on West 44th Street. Members of the Columbia University Club were offered the opportunity to retain membership rights to continue to use the Princeton Club and **Art Delmhorst** exercised that option. After due consideration and an examination of the facility now housing the Columbia University Club, we decided to stay at 15 W. 43rd St., where we will stay likely as not until, albatrosses that we are, the Princeton Club closes its doors.

There were three first Thursday exceptions that **David Kirk** recalled. A flight to Portland, Maine, to tour the city with **Larry Rubinstein** and lunch on lobster rolls, an extended "lunch" in Paris to join with **Bob Berne** and wife, Steffi, in celebration of Bob's birthday and a poignant lunch in a conference room in **Richard Friedlander**'s office, where Richard informed us that based on his doctors' assessments, his condition was terminal and it would be his last lunch with us, and before the first Thursday of the next month arrived, Richard was gone. Those were occasions that were indeed memorably enjoyable, and ineffably sad. For those who have lost contact with our monthly gatherings and wish to return but wonder where we are, and for those who have not attended, but would like to enjoy some good companionship and conversation, know that we persist and carry on each first Thursday of the month (except when that day is a holiday), and convene at the Princeton Club at 15 W. 43rd St. on the third floor. Feel free to email me for further information and/or if you have any questions, and by all means send some news for our Class Notes.

Bill Tanenbaum and his wife, Ronna, whose travels have taken them around the world, returned in June after traveling to London (before the terrorist attacks, Bill advises), continuing north to Edinburgh, and, as Bill writes, "finishing the vacation adventure in a rented apartment in Jerusalem, not knowing that President Trump was scheduled to visit during our stay. We experienced the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem. Tens of thousands danced in the streets as bands blared their music and the groups headed to the Old City and the Western Wall. It was a joyous occasion to be part of."

The Tanenbaums' conviction is to keep moving and exploring, and they recommend it to us all.

1961

Michael Hausig
19418 Encino Summit
San Antonio, TX 78259
mhausig@yahoo.com

James Bryce LAW'70 retired from the University of Alabama School of Law after teaching tax law for 39 years. He plans to spend his remaining years traveling and taking care of his gardens, orchards and timber at Shotgun Hollow Plantation in Eoline, Ala.

During **Gerry Brodeur**'s recent trip east he had lunch with **Wayne Hatfield** in Londonderry, N.H. Earlier on the trip, he had dinner with **Jack Kirik** and his wife, Sue, in Hershey, Pa. Upon returning to Las Vegas, Gerry fell and broke his femur near the ball that joins the hip, requiring three screws to hold it together. Long recovery ahead. His advice: "Don't fall!"

Best wishes for a speedy recovery.

In June, **Bob Salman** LAW'64 was elected to his fifth consecutive four-year term on the New Jersey Democratic State Committee. More importantly, Bob and his wife, Reva, celebrated their 54th anniversary on June 16.

Bob also is active in Phil Murphy's race for governor of New Jersey, concentrating on transportation issues.

David Konstan GSAS'67 went to Taipei in July to teach two summer courses at Fu Jen Catholic University. One was on Latin love poetry, and the other, taught in translation, was called "Love, Sexuality and Friendship in the Classical World." David was considered the distinguished visiting professor in "The Program of Western Classical and Medieval Culture."

John Learned writes from Hawaii that his daughter, a Barnard graduate, is a Hollywood film editor.

Stuart Sloame and his wife, Ellen, moved to West Hollywood, Calif., in April 2016 from Washington, D.C., to be near their daughter Joanna Sloame '09. Joanna writes and produces videos for PopSugar, an Internet magazine for millennial women. Stuart reunited with **Jack Samet**, a fellow Los Angeles resident, at the WeHo Bistro Restaurant.

My wife, JB, and I were in Washington, D.C., in June to visit with **Alex Liebowitz** and his wife, Denise. While there, Alex and I attended a class luncheon and saw **Mickey Greenblatt, Max Cohen** and **Tom Lippman.** The group meets every other month, usually on the second Wednesday. If you happen to be visiting D.C. and wish to attend, contact Mickey: mickey@mgreenblatt.com. There is always an extra place at the table.



Jack Samet '61 had lunch at Los Angeles' WeHo Bistro Restaurant with Stuart Sloame '61, as well as with Sloame's wife, Ellen, and Samet's girlfriend, Beverly.

I have a number of email addresses that are no longer valid, as classmates have retired or moved and changed Internet providers. If you do not receive quarterly emails from me requesting information for Class Notes but still receive *CCT*, please send me your updated email address. [Editor's note: Please also inform the Alumni Office: college.columbia.edu/cct/update_contact_info.] Thank you.

1962

John Freidin
654 E. Munger St.
Middlebury, VT 05753
jf@bicyclevt.com

The big news, of course, is that our 55th reunion took place during the



Gerry Brodeur '61 enjoyed lunch with Wayne Hatfield '61 in Londonderry, N.H.

first weekend in June. Because I was not there, former class correspondent **Ed Pressman** — with assistance from **Paul Alter** — prepared the following report. Thanks to both of you.

"The reunion began on Thursday, June 1, with a catered cocktail party at the lovely Manhattan home of **Paul Alter.** This event has become a popular tradition for our class reunions. Paul introduced Dean James J. Valentini, who welcomed us with remarks, reintroducing us to the College and getting everyone 'into the swing.' As always, we shared memories of our years together. It seems wonderfully inevitable that these stories grow more embellished and colorful as the years go by.

"After cocktails at Paul's, we split into smaller groups. Some went to restaurants, some to a Broadway show or to the ballet at Lincoln Center, and others to Columbia events.

"On Friday morning, about 15 of us — many with their spouses — had breakfast on campus with other reunion classes. Afterward we were ushered onto a bus and headed downtown to the [National September 11 Memorial & Museum] of the World Trade Center. It was a sobering and fascinating experience, especially for those of us who had toured the site during our 50th reunion in 2012.

"On Friday evening we returned to Amsterdam Avenue for a casual, filling and nostalgic dinner at V&T Pizzeria.

"Saturday morning began with the Dean's Breakfast, at which Valentini reported on the state of the College. That afternoon we had a 1962 luncheon, attended Mini-Core Classes, and roamed the campus and ever-expanding Columbia neighborhood.

"The weekend was topped off with a moving class dinner at The Campbell Sports Center. **Jim Balquist** gave an inspiring talk about our championship wrestling team of 55 years ago! And at the conclusion of the meal, Paul asked for a moment of silence in honor of our classmates who have passed away. It is a long, sobering list.

In addition to Jim (and Ann) Balquist, Ed Pressman (and Marcia Gellert) and Paul Alter, the following classmates attended our 55th: Judy and **Jeffrey Bergen,** Karen and **Gerry Debonis,** Linda and **Joel Goldman,** Brenda and **Burt Lehman, John Mackenzie, Jeffrey Milstein,** Lorrie Gerson and **Stuart Rosenbluth,** Joan and **Richard Toder,** Gayle and **Harvey Chertoff, Frank Grady,** Vicki and **Fred Modell, Tobias Robison, Gary Roxland, Kalman Rubinson,** Linda and **Stephen Stein, Anthony Valerio,** Kathy and **Franz Stoppenbach,** Jane and **Leo Swergold,** Julia and **Yen Tan,** Jewell and **Stan Waldbaum,** Arlene and **Russell Baccaglini,** Emily Gallup and **Robert Umans.** Please let me know if your name is missing, and I will report that in the Winter 2017–18 issue.

Ethel and **Bernie Patten** had planned to travel to Iran this fall. The government sent them lengthy instructions about what they could and could not wear and do. Ultimately, however, it refused to issue them visas. Bernie wrote: "We had to state a religion, something that Libya had previously required of us. Finally, I admitted I was a Taoist, and Ethel said she was a follower of Bacchus, which was the truth. Libya issued the visas, but not Iran. We'll try again next year."

Bob Meyers recently discovered that three College alumni share his row of lockers at his swim club in the hills of Oakland, Calif.: Rich Glaser '67, Jeff Davis '68 and Dave Rapson '79. And the swimmer with the locker next to Bob's has a daughter in the Engineering School! Bob also confessed: "As I turned 76, I had to stop using my mountain bike and finally faced reality and purchased an e-bike. It's a battery-assisted mountain bike that lets me ride on nearby fire trails the way I did 20 years ago and still enjoy the sport while getting a decent aerobic workout."

Crawford Kilian reported in April, "Here in Vancouver we're in the midst of a provincial election, and I've been writing articles in *The Tyee* about the government's disastrous educational policies over its 16-year reign. With any luck they'll be out on May 9, and I can start blasting the new government. After teaching college for 41 years, I'm really glad to have moved into a new career as an online journalist. *The Tyee* lets me write about education, politics, public health, environmental issues and books, so it's a pretty good news beat. And I find I don't miss writing books at all. Also, a young Australian shepherd has been hired on as my personal trainer. She gets me out walking four or five miles a day — rain, shine, or snow. So far, my knees have endured."

Roman Kernitsky practices ophthalmology on a full-time basis. His wife, Lydia, is a retired dentist. They live in Colts Neck, N.J., and have two grown sons — one a lawyer; the other a diplomat. Roman recently traveled to Siracusa, Sicily, which was very exciting, he writes, "because I participated in a procession for the festival of Santa Lucia (May 1). Saint Lucy is the patron saint of the eyes, and since I am an ophthalmologist this was very gratifying. On an unrelated topic, I feel that Hillary Clinton is an ignorant, vicious, narcissistic liar and not Trump. Clinton is the one who was responsible for Americans who got killed in Benghazi. Furthermore, I am a war refugee (from Poland, 1946). It was Obama who created the refugee problem in Syria by not taking action when Assad used chemical weapons — Obama's red line. Under Obama no significant number of Christian refugees was admitted to the United States, even though they are on the verge of extermination. Democracy and freedom in the world have retreated under the eight-year administration of Obama."

Lee Lowenfish '63 reports, "I spoke on a panel about Jackie Robinson's journey at the national convention of the Society for American Baseball Research."

1963

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Paul Neshamkin
1015 Washington St., Apt. 50
Hoboken, NJ 07030
pauln@helpauthors.com

Our 55th reunion is only eight months away. Please mark your calendars and hold the dates Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2. And, most importantly, come! For all who missed the 50th, here is a chance to make up for it. For all who made the 50th, come back again, and let's make this reunion even more fun. As I mentioned in the Summer issue, we have already formed a Reunion Committee and had our first meetings. Please contact me if you want to help organize and gather your classmates. Let's make it a great party.

Herb Soroca writes, "For the last couple of years I have been coaching rowing at the Greenwich Water Club. This past year I was asked to be head coach of the novice boys. On May 21–22 at the Northeast Youth Championship on Lake Quinsigamond (Worcester, Mass.), my novices finished second (silver medal) out of 20 crews in the 8 and then split into two 4s, stern 4 and bow 4, and finished first and second (gold and silver medals) also out of 20 crews. Terrific bunch of kids (13–15-year-olds) and a real thrill to be back at Worcester. Also, this past February, my wife, Barbara, and I had dinner in Sarasota with Marsha and **Rick Eisenberg** and Sandy and **Bruce 'Jeff' Wechsler.**"

Lee Lowenfish reports, "I spoke on a panel about Jackie Robinson's journey at the national convention of the Society for American Baseball Research. **Bob Whelan** came up to me the day before and said hi. Slowly it came back to me — he's from Grover Cleveland H.S. in Queens, went on to a career in political science and is now emeritus at University of Texas Dallas after being at University of North Florida and University of New Orleans."

David Orme-Johnson writes, "We recently returned from a peace conference in Kiev, where I spoke. I thought you might like to see this article on it online: bit.ly/2ibUIUt."

David also wrote earlier, "Here is a link to the second of my articles on 'The Scientific Quest for Enlightenment,' published in *Enjoy TM News.* In this article I document how the

scientists that started research on TM in the early 1970s got together with Maharishi to start two universities; how our research focused on scientifically defining transcendental consciousness; and Maharishi's role in the key discovery of EEG (electroencephalogram) synchrony. Enjoy it online: bit.ly/2wh4YRv.

D. Keith Mano's widow, Laurie, writes that Columbia recently decided to archive his writings in its Rare Book & Manuscript Library, housed in Butler: "It certainly is a great honor. Keith was the recipient of Columbia's Euretta J. Kellett Fellowship and the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship. He received a Literary Lion award from the New York Public Library as well as a *Playboy* Award for his excellence in journalism."

I had known Keith was a novelist for many years, but had not followed his journalism, which was prolific. He contributed articles on sex for *Playboy* and, for 17 years starting in 1972, he wrote his column, "The Gimlet Eye," in every issue of *National Review*. I started googling these articles recently, after avoiding the publication my whole life, and found them immensely interesting and beautifully written. I will now set aside some time to read some of Keith's novels. Any of you have a favorite?

Nick Zill writes, "You might be interested in my latest blog post, 'What Happens At Home Doesn't Stay There: It Goes to School.' It is based on analysis of data from the Census Bureau's current population survey and the National Survey of Children's Health. You can view it online: bit.ly/2fyBqYy.

Nick also reported on his latest entry on YouTube: "Two frustrated Trump supporters sing of Donald's efforts to drain the swamp, accompanied by a Zydeco band. You can sing along and watch the swamp creatures triumph on YouTube (words and music by yours truly) online: bit.ly/2wP14vC."

I learned from one of Nick's Facebook posts that **Bill Burley** has published *Mackenzie's Farewell*, the first of three novels about Rob Mackenzie and Maryann Caton. You can order it through Amazon or iUniverse. [Editor's note: See "Bookshelf."] If you google Bill, you will see several pictures of him with his bagpipes and kilt (Bill is one of three players of my favorite instrument in our class — possibly a record).

Bill, I hope that you will be Piping in the Haggis at the annual Burns Night Dinner at the Penn Club, where the Columbia Club is now housed. If you are, I will gather a bunch of classmates to celebrate with you.

Volunteers?

Remember our regular class lunches (for now, we are still gathering at the Princeton Club at 15 W. 43rd St.) are always a great place to reconnect. If you're back in NYC, try to make one of the lunches this fall. The next are on October 12 and November 9 — it's always the second Thursday. Check cc63ers.com for details.

1964

Norman Olch
233 Broadway
New York, NY 10279
norman@nolch.com

By the time this arrives in your mailbox, the summer will have passed and autumn will be upon us. But whatever the season, and wherever you are, I send my best wishes to you and your loved ones.

Joel Abramson reports that he is the 2017–18 chair of the New York State Bar Association's General Practice Section.

Good luck in the year ahead, Joel.

Barry Bley writes from Colorado: "I received the most recent edition of *CCT* in my mailbox today, and I thought it appropriate to bring you up to date with my activities. My wife, Cindy, and I live in a northern suburb of Denver. We have the best of both worlds — downtown in 20 minutes and in the mountains in 40. I retired from teaching in the public schools of Suffern, N.Y. (and later Denver), after 42 years. Our time is taken up with our seven grandkids, ages 4–18, all of whom live within a half-hour's drive.

"I continue my work with the Alumni Representative Committee, interviewing high school seniors who have applied to the College. This will be my 43rd year of conducting these conversations. Looking back over my career, I am pleased that four of my former students are now my fellow alumni. They are Josh Wayser '84, LAW'88; Russel Wilson '86; Eric Ndikumana '12, PH'14; and Isaac Solano TC'15. I only wish there were more alums in Colorado."

The 2016–17 **Alan J. Willen** Memorial Prize has been awarded to Partha Sharma '17 for his thesis, "Lockstep Independence: Alaska's Constitutionalism and the Indigent Parent's Right to Counsel in *Matter of K.L.J.* (1991)."

In a thank you note for the prize, Partha, who majored in political science and concentrated in philosophy, writes that his paper "analyzed the Alaska Supreme Court's remarkable recognition of a right to counsel in certain family law cases. As an aspiring public interest lawyer, I was drawn to studying the prospect of a 'Civil *Gideon*' being established by state courts. The Alaska case, in its uniqueness, drew my attention."

Alan, who was a *Spectator* news editor, loved history, and the class is proud to sponsor the prize.

Please write to me at norman@nolch.com to see your news in the Winter 2017–18 issue.

1965

Leonard B. Pack
924 West End Ave.
New York, NY 10025
packlb@aol.com

News of three writers from our class this issue: **David Denby** JRN'66 wrote a marvelous piece on the conductor Arturo Toscanini, "The Toscanini Wars," in the July 10 issue of *The New Yorker*. David's piece was occasioned by the publication of a 900-plus page biography of Toscanini by the music historian Harvey Sachs, which received a front-page review in *The New York Times Book Review*. But David's piece focuses on the experience of listening to Toscanini's recordings. Writing about any sensory experience is not easy to do, but check out this passage: "Listening again to any of Toscanini's recordings … has been, for me, both a thrilling and an alarming experience. Enthusiasm from decades ago, long folded into the back drawer of memory, came roaring back. Some of the performances bursting from speakers and headphones stagger belief. Consider one of the most familiar yet daunting of all monuments, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony … At the beginning of [the first] movement's recapitulation, Beethoven, returning to the blunt opening bars, splits open the heavens in waves of convulsive sound. In any conductor's performance, this should be an apocalyptic moment; Toscanini does better. In his 1952 rendering with the NBC Symphony, he uncharacteristically departs from the score. Rather than instructing the kettledrums to play through the passage with continuous rolling thunder, as other conductors do (including Wilhelm Furtwängler and Herbert von Karajan), he had the timpani peak at each of the three crescendos in the passage — releasing, all three times, an almost frightening charge of energy, as if the atom were being split again and again. And throughout the passage Toscanini holds to his rapid tempo for the entire movement. Playing with this kind of speed and force, the musicians of the NBC Symphony reach the limits of what human beings are capable of. But what is conveyed by this assault on possibility? Toscanini's 'despair'? Rage? Defiance of what has to be? Defiance of death, then?"

I was a Toscanini enthusiast myself during our college years, especially when Riverside Church Radio Station (WRVR) ran a series in which, over the course of many months, they played every Toscanini recording, both studio and live, so I wrote to David about that. He responded: "Thanks for your note. It [the *New Yorker* piece] was a labor of love. It started as a record-listening piece for the web, and it just grew once I got hold of the biography. Yes, [the *Times* reviewer] did the life, not why the life actually mattered. I remember that WRVR series; I remember talking to the guy who put it on the air."

And, in breaking news, the August 8 edition of *Publishers Lunch* included news of a new publishing deal by the "author of *Great Books* and *Lit Up*, David Denby's untitled group portrait of four remarkable Jewish Americans — Leonard Bernstein, Betty Friedan, Norman Mailer and Mel Brooks."

Gary Engelberg wrote with news of his new book: "You know there must be something special if you get an email from me! Some good news! I recently received the first 75 copies of my new book, *Learning To See And Other Stories And Memoirs From Senegal*. It's due to be released on September 17."

Gary has lived in Senegal, West Africa, for more than 50 years, since

his Peace Corps assignment there. When I hear that anyone I know is traveling to Dakar, I send them to Gary. **Brian Fix** was the most recent; his and Gary's reports on their meeting appeared in the Summer 2014 issue of this column. Gary is the co-founder and former director of Africa Consultants International, an NGO that promotes cross-cultural communication, health and social justice in Dakar. Here are excerpts from the publisher's description of Gary's book: "This book is a treasure of cultural insights about Senegal for anyone who may be interested in learning to see. In this volume of memoirs and short stories, the author shares incidents that contributed to his growing understanding of the culture of this country that he loved at first sight and grew to love even more over the years."

And a quote from the book: "It's early September 2015 in Senegal. We are about three quarters of the way through the rainy season. This has been one of those years that gives the impression of having passed by in overdrive. Suddenly January turned to May while I was still getting used to writing 2015 on my checks. Five days ago, September 1, marked my fifty years in Senegal. The years too have passed quickly. When I decided to write, the short stories in this book came quickly as well, like ripe mangoes falling from the tree. They are accounts of real people and real events with some changes in names and details, as well as fictional stories with invented characters that are inspired by a composite of real events. With its roots in the 12th century, and located on a cross-roads where different world cultures have met and mixed, Senegal has had the time to develop intricate mechanisms to manage diversity and bind people together in non-conflictual relationships. While its architectural achievements are modest on the world scale, its social architecture has the beauty of the Taj Mahal in its balance and perfection. These social mechanisms are reflected in the predominant cultural values of this old society. In this collection, I share acquired insights from people and incidents that contributed to my growing respect for these values and the wisdom of this millennial culture. These stories and memoirs somehow encapsulate some of the values upon which this culture is constructed. They are a treasure of lessons from Senegal about what is important in life for anyone interested in learning to see."

I've written about **Richard Taruskin** from time to time, most recently when **Jim Siegel** attended a lecture Richard gave in New York City. **Leslie Brisman** and **Dan Carlinsky** informed me that Richard was awarded the Kyoto Prize. This is a Nobel Prize equivalent for fields that are not covered by the Swedish Nobel Prize. It is only awarded to three people per year, and it is only awarded in music once every four years. All previous awards in music have gone to composers or conductors; Richard is the first academic to receive the prize. Richard intends to accept the prize in Japan in November 2017.

The sponsor of the prize, the Inamori Foundation, describes Richard as "a musicologist and critic of prodigious erudition who has transformed contemporary perspectives on music through historical research and essays that defy conventional critical paradigms."

The foundation's citation continues: "Born in New York in 1945, Dr. Taruskin studied Russian language at Columbia University before entering its graduate school of musicology, where he focused on Western music history under Professor Paul Henry Lang, and joined the faculty after earning his Ph.D. In those days, he performed as a viola da gamba player, and served as the choral conductor of the Collegium Musicum of Columbia University. These experiences provided a prelude to the considerable controversy surrounding early music that he would ignite later in life. In the 1980s, while writing for *The New York Times*, other newspapers and academic journals, he provocatively asserted that contemporary performances of early music were not true examples of 'authenticity,' as was commonly claimed, but rather reflections of late 20th-century aesthetics. This argument influenced the performance world of early music in tangible and intangible ways, and even today, Dr. Taruskin's argument underlies the varied approaches these performances tend to take.

"Dr. Taruskin has left an even larger mark in the music world through his Russian music research, evident in his books — *Opera and Drama in Russia as Preached and Practiced in the 1860s* (1981), *Mussorgsky: Eight Essays and an Epilogue* (1993), and *Stravinsky and the Russian Traditions: A Biography of the Works through Mavra* (1996). These works, spawned from a revolutionary method of analyzing original compositions alongside extensive study of contextual circumstances, including folkloristics, have radically reshaped our image of the original composers and updated the methodology of musicology research itself.

"His six-volume *The Oxford History of Western Music* (2005), focusing exclusively on music in the Western literate tradition, represents a literary landmark in musicology and perhaps the largest overview of music history ever written by a single author. Under the influence of ethnomusicology and historical science which has critical approach to historiography, Dr. Taruskin critically overstepped the description method based on some aesthetic and/or historical universality and presented an enormous amount of descriptive evidence that Western music history written under homogeneous standards actually consists of an aggregation of historical matters that are minuscule and heterogeneous. His deep knowledge of such diverse fields as history, culture, politics, art, literature and religion allows him to make an incisive analysis of the literate tradition of Western music in the socio-cultural context. Every chapter of his first-edition Western musicology history, which exceeds 4,000 pages, is both thrilling and illuminating.

"Dr. Taruskin's critiques have consequently set a new standard in musicology, influencing audiences and performers alike. His critical practices and deep academic insights have changed music as we know it, pioneering a new realm of music research which can go beyond the boundary between conventional criticism and musicology, and between historical musicology and ethnomusicology.

"The quality and volume of his work reveal that in music, creativity can be found not only in composition and performance, but also in meticulous discourse contextualizing the art and that this, in itself, can contribute significantly to the world's music cultures."



Stay in Touch

Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name: **college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect.**

1966

Rich Forzani
413 Banta Ave.
Garfield, NJ 07026
rforzani1@optonline.net

Welcome to our abridged column. Most of you will recall I advised you that the Class Notes space was to be shortened from 2,000 words to 1,500 words. Later submissions to the column will appear in the next issue. **Tom Chorba**, in his typical acerbic manner, commented, "Why the hell do they think we read the magazine?"

I asked for details about any of you getting caught with a pair of strippers, to which **Jonathan Sunshine** replied, "What is this about a pair of slippers? I put mine in the shoe rack."

John Burke confessed he was apprehended leaving an abandoned Radio Shack store with a pair of wire strippers, to splice a speaker wire on his "hi-fi" system.

From **Larry Nelson**: "Jan and **Dean Mottard** visited us in Arlington, Va., in May. At **Bob Gurland**'s cocktail party at last year's reunion, Deano met my wife, Sue. It was a fun start to an excellent weekend. We hadn't met Jan before, and if you haven't yet, I highly recommend making it happen! Capt. Mottard was a little nervous when I told him I invited three Marine generals to the party ('Um, I once saw a general'). Unfortunately, only the very nice and surprisingly gentle three-star across the street was in town. Jan and Dean exhausted themselves with sightseeing on their own and left with more monuments to see, sufficient food and drink in their bellies, and enough room in their hearts to agree to a follow-up week

in Cozumel with us and Meredith and **Gene Thompson.** Go Lions!"

Jessie Berman advises, "I am alive and well, and I am still at my office in Manhattan, practicing criminal defense."

In the past few years, **David Paglin**'s theater project, Conscience Drama Directive, has presented four performance evenings featuring the plays (two from each) of the English department lions of our day, still world-renowned theater scholar-critics: Eric Bentley and Robert Brustein GSAS'57. Happily, Eric and Bob are very much with us, brilliant as ever, at 101 and 90!

Three comments on my email signature line read "Golden lads and girls all must, as chimney sweepers, come to dust." From **John Mamoulakis,** "All come to dust. But what matters is what passes between birth and dust."

Well said, John.

David Matthew, in the literary spirit, replies, "... and what rough beast, its time come round at last ... Be well, do good work, keep in touch." **Roger Low** commented, "There are no obvious signs of imminent dust, here, I'm pleased to report. **Michael Garrett** and I had a very pleasant lunch in London. As usual, photos of grandchildren were shown."

Geoff Dutton: "Putting close-to-finishing touches on my politically transgressive novel of terrorists plotting in Europe; I've been peddling it while in the midst of a nonfiction book project about remediating the out-of-control march of technology. Started blogging semi-regularly last winter at progressivepilgrim.review and occasionally contribute to counterpunch.org. Proudly watched my teenage daughter march off to her first paying summer job at our local public access media center. Who knows, maybe she'll find her way to CU."

Michael Garrett reports that he and his wife, Sandy, spent a fun month in England, Scotland and Norway this summer (except for so many questions about how we could have elected that "evil child") and will celebrate their 50th anniversary by taking the whole clan to the Caribbean. Michael is looking forward to Columbia Press' publication this fall of a book of essays (one of which is his) marking the 50th anniversary of the 1968 uprising.

Joel Labow: "Recently cut back to two days a week teaching pediatric clinical clerkship students. I am a clinical professor of pediatrics at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Md."

Anthony Starace: "As avid hikers, we recently returned on July 15 from nine days in Iceland. We began by soaking an entire afternoon in the Blue Lagoon outside Reykjavik. But most of our trip was spent hiking to the rims of volcanos, to the Háifoss waterfall and along its river valley, to hot springs in the Reykjadalur Valley and to 1,000-year-old historic sites in Thingvellir National Park. Of course, we roughed it in first-class hotels serving New Nordic Cuisine gourmet meals. Typically, one's entree (mainly seafood or lamb) is surrounded by so many different colorful sauces, purées and vegetables that it resembles an impressionist painter's palette. Interesting also is that democracy began in Iceland from the time of its settlement. The country is powered 85 percent by green energy, primarily geothermal. In Reykjavik, for example, hot water is distributed from 28 kilometers away by insulated pipes to each household, and sidewalks and roads in the city remain frost-free owing to heat pipes below them. Finally, Icelanders maintain the purity of their language, so that even today most literate Icelanders are able to read their famous *Sagas* from the 13th century in the original language. It is quite an incredible, beautiful and interesting country and people."

Welcome back to **Jonathan Davis:** "I don't recall previously submitting a post to CC'66 Class Notes. And, I don't think I have anything of general interest to post now. But, I am wondering whether it might make a good topic for classmates who have already retired or who are about to take the plunge to comment on what's been good about it, what hasn't been so good, what to look out for, and, in general, what advice to offer."

Bob Klingensmith: "Since 'global warming' has been hitting California particularly hard this summer, Nancy and I planned to extend our normal August golf getaways to Scotland by a few weeks. We'll spend the first couple in Northern Ireland, playing a different course until they all have been brought to their knees. If you watched the Scottish Open on July 15, the players were all wearing sweaters and wool ski caps. So, we'll spend the whole month in Scotland and play every day that it's not pouring. I've long been a member at the Dunbar Golf Club, designed in 1853 by 'Old Tom' Morris, the legendary golfer who won the 'The Open' four times in the first decade of its existence. It's one of the oldest courses in the world as well as one of the prettiest, with half of the holes paralleling the open sea. So, the sea breezes, gulls and sailing ships comfort you and keep you happy even during the worst of rounds. It's a great way to appreciate life as well as a great way to keep you on this side of the turf."

From **Neill Brownstein:** "Linda Brownstein is the love of my life. We are celebrating Linda's 70th birthday — with family and friends — 'Around The World' (in Park City, the San Francisco Bay Area, Chicago, NYC, Maui, Japan, India, Botswana) in 80 days."

Stefan Rudnicki: "My company, Skyboat Media, continues to produce and publish top quality audiobooks, specializing in genre classics (fantasy, SF, horror, thriller). And I continue to rack up awards (Earphones, Audies, Hugos, etc.) as a narrator and producer while serving on the Board of Directors of The Audio Publishers Association and attending relevant conferences." [Editor's note: See profile, Spring 2014.]

Harry Kresky bought a place near Cambridge, N.Y., in Washington County. He says, "Learning to fly fish on the Battenkill and loving it. And with one foot still in NYC practicing law."

Jon Coppelman: "For the first time since we graduated 51 years ago, I'll jump in on this peculiar ritual of compressing what is now a long life into a few lines. I was an English major, with no strong sense of what I wanted to do in the working world. As a result, I've done many things in a meandering career, from developing drug diversion programs in Atlanta to managing adult literacy programs in Massachusetts. I'm still working and have little interest in retirement. My dear wife of 30-plus years, Nancy, is co-director of outreach at the Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment in Boston. We have two wonderful daughters: Julia, a Northwestern graduate who entered Yale Law School this fall, and Anna, a Kenyon graduate who admirably juggles four jobs in Somerville, Mass. This recitation of mere facts cannot convey the countless joys, blessings and sorrows that have been constant companions along the way."

Phil Brenner's long-awaited history of Cuba will be published on September 1. *Cuba Libre: A 500-Year Quest for Independence*, co-authored with award-winning journalist Peter Eisner, is intended for both an academic audience and broadly educated readers like Columbia grads. Phil begins a three-year phased retirement this fall from American University, which gives him the chance to participate in conferences on the 55th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Your correspondent personally reports on a road trip taken with my 27-year-old son, Rich (amazingly, at his request), from New Jersey to Nashville and back. I introduced him to real Tennessee barbecue and we spent time quaffing many brews at many Music City venues. P.S.: For some ridiculous reason, Rich believes that because he is 45 years younger and in much better shape, he can outdrink me. He forgets that his seven years of college/law school partying do not outweigh my 5-in. height and 45-lb. weight advantage, along with 54 years of solid experience. Old bull beats young bull. Again.

Finally, our perpetual Peck's bad boy, **John Doody,** writes, "I have nothing new to report. Just a continuing enjoyment of the pleasures from my personal fountains of youth ... much younger women." Your correspondent verifies that John spends much time in Florida cavorting on his large speedboat, with said companions, and admonishes him to keep it well inside the Gulf Stream, since immersion in cold water may shrink it down to nothing.

1967

Albert Zonana
425 Arundel Rd.
Goleta, CA 93117
az164@columbia.edu

Spending time with old friends on campus at our 50th reunion was, for me, both moving and joyful. At least 70 classmates attended. **Bob Rosenberg** welcomed the class to his home on Thursday night. **Richard Axel,** a Nobel laureate, delivered a superb keynote on Saturday morn-

ing. The *Spectator* editorial board met over dinner at V&T, entertained a half-dozen editorial topics and came to consensus that while neither the food nor the service at V&T had changed much in 50 years, our experiences on *Spectator* were instrumental in our development.

On a campus tour, **Joseph Solodow** and I reminded each other of where we learned of the assassination of President Kennedy in November of our freshman year. Joe was standing in front of Furnald; I was on Low Plaza wondering why groups of students had gathered around transistor radios. The Saturday class dinner was in Low Library, the same dignified setting in which Dean David B. Truman had welcomed us to Columbia nearly 54 years ago. The entire event was a vivid reminder of our formative years, the enduring friendships we made and the college years that shaped us forever.

A special thank you to the Reunion Committee for its work on behalf of the class: **Alan Bateman, Carlton Carl, Robert Costa, Ken Haydock, Roger Lehecka, Vince McBrien, Mark Minton, Jenik Radon, Stephen Rice** and **Bob Rosenberg.**

Before reunion, **Don Shapiro** wrote, "Unfortunately, I will be traveling out of the country at the time of our reunion, so I won't be attending. However, I hope you can include my update in the next issue of *CCT*. After retiring from medical practice in the Philadelphia area, my wife of 48 years, Karlyn, and I divide our time between Aspen, Colo., and Juno Beach, Fla. Winter and summer in Aspen, and spring and fall in Florida. They're both wonderful places to live. We also travel a great deal, trying to fill our bucket list. We have two kids, Stacey and Adam '03, and three grandkids."

Until our 55th reunion, we will need to fill the gap and stay connected via Class Notes. I urge you to write to me at az164@columbia.edu, and I promise to remind you via email.

1968

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Arthur Spector
One Lincoln Plaza, Apt. 25K
New York, NY 10023
arthurbspector@gmail.com

I apologize that I was out of commission for the last column; I am now back on duty. I'm in good humor — trying to stay in good shape — and recently was at my country place in Saratoga, N.Y., where the weather was perfect. And I found a Turkish restaurant there that was exceptional.

I was at Barnes and Noble and saw **Eric Van Lustbader**'s most recent book, *The Bourne Initiative*. I did not know he was the author of 11 of the Bourne series and in 2004 wrote *The Bourne Legacy*. Wikipedia says of Eric: "writer of thrillers and fantasy novels." That's for sure! So I looked more closely and saw a list of 82 books, if I counted correctly. Quite amazing. Let's plug his book: Get it, and hope to get an autograph at reunion.

I also spoke to **David Shapiro,** who has retired, but is writing and working on his next book. His knowledge of art and art history is quite wonderful, particularly on Jasper Johns.

John Roy lives in Fort Myers, Fla., but was on a trip west that sounded both fun and exhausting. Specifically, he wrote he was in Memphis visiting his son Noah and then on to Chicago, Minneapolis, Bismarck, N.D., Red Lodge, Mont., and West Yellowstone. John and I had a cup of coffee when he was in the city before the trip; it is always wonderful to see him. We last saw each other at my home in Miami. I am sure we will get a long report on the trip. John sees **Greg Winn** regularly, who is reportedly ready to take on the best golfers in his age class. I intend to track down **Neil Anderson,** who is also in Fort Myers, to be at the 50th. Greg and John have already committed to coming with verve and enthusiasm. I saw Neil when I was last in Fort Myers; his jokes at dinner were politically charming.

Bob Brandt and I text periodically. He recently reported that he was "in Italy with my wife biking in the Piedmont region, the foothills of the Alps, with great food and wine."

Sounds like a bike ride program in Central Park for our 50th!

Bob says he might stop by and say hello to me in Saratoga on his way to the Sagamore on Lake George. I am looking forward to seeing him at our reunion, along with other philosophy majors like **Bill McDavid,** who can still play the electric guitar! Recently I was wishing that Professor Arthur Danto GSAS'53 was around — sadly, he is not — as I have become increasing interested in abstract art and contemporary art. Bob, Bill and I were in his class together. Danto was superb, for sure.

I heard from **Buzz Zucker,** who writes, "The biggest news is the retirement of my razor at the beginning of June. Oh yes, I retired from work also. I am very much looking forward to becoming more acquainted with my bed and less acquainted with my car."

Buzz and I spent a day right before he wrote at my place in New York, where we used the pool on the 44th floor and the gym and talked a lot about the future and some Columbia great times. I did test him on his current knowledge of Broadway shows, one of his passions. In fact he could report about almost all of them — quite amazing. Even more extraordinary is the fact that he had seen 71 shows in four months! We then went to PJ Clarke's for food and then Buzz was off to another show. It was so great to see him, as I last saw him at a Columbia basketball game.

I heard from **Bruce Margon,** who has had (as many have had in our class) a wondrous academic career. Someone should catalog the list of our classmates in academia; it might be the most extraordinary group. Bruce writes, "I'm a faithful reader of your *CCT* columns despite my years of silence. To make up for this silence with a (premature) burst of enthusiasm, I'm writing to ask if (or when) the date for our 50th reunion will be set. I know, I know, I'm a year early, but I'm determined to come and want to lock in the dates as soon as they're available. [Editor's note: See the dates at the top of the column.]

"I retired about two years ago, both as the UC Santa Cruz vice chancellor for research and as professor of astronomy and astrophysics, so of course now that I'm emeritus I find myself doing more, and more rewarding, research than I've done in a decade. On retirement, my wife, Lorraine, and I downsized to a townhouse right on the ocean about 15 miles south of Santa Cruz; we love it — we can see whales from our living room, and I don't mean on TV. We're traveling a fair amount — for fun, to science conferences and to see our young granddaughter (who is too far away) in Maryland. And perhaps in a final burst of energy, for a month each summer I teach an intensive (six hours a day, five days a week!) class on astrophysics to 25 high school students from all over California, many from disadvantaged backgrounds, who come to the UCSC campus in residence for a month. Essentially all then go on to college, many the first in their family not only to attend college, but also to graduate from high school. For that month, I fall asleep at 8 p.m. almost every night, but it truly is exhilarating. I've never before taught a class where almost all of the students say 'thank you' as they file out, every single day. After 50 years I finally have an answer to the question 'What's the social good of astronomy?' I'm really looking forward to our 50th reunion!"

Bruce — as you might know — we had an astrophysicist speak at one of our early reunions, with pictures that even then were breathtaking. The group was in awe; I surely was. Speaking of the 50th reunion, there will be a huge turnout, I believe — many have already contacted me and others and plans are underway. The school does a great job now, and takes input from us well indeed. I'll bet we have the best turnout of any 50th

Phil Brenner '66's long-awaited history,
Cuba Libre: A 500-Year Quest for Independence,
was published on September 1.

of that class era; it will be Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2.

From **David Heim** JRN'75: "This year, I began a three-year term as a member of the board of directors for the American Association of Woodturners. The AAW, with some 16,000 members, is the world's largest organization devoted to the advancement of woodturning. This past summer, we had our 31st annual convention, in Kansas City. It attracted more than 1,000 people to see close to 100 turning demonstrations presented by some of the world's best woodturners. And in July, Spring House Press published *Woodturning Patterns: 80+ Designs for the Workshop, Garden, and Every Room in the House*. I wrote and illustrated the book, which consists of fully measured drawings that people can use to make everything from tool handles to pepper mills to salad bowls to chopsticks to baseball bats. Having a hobby is great. Being able to monetize a hobby is even greater."

From **Phil Guinsburg:** "I am downsizing my practice of 44 years. For the first time I am a renter and not an owner. I signed a five-year lease."

Mike Hindus wrote; sounds like fun hanging out with brilliant Columbia students. They invited him back, and he is living near campus — amazing. He writes, "This spring I taught a seminar, 'American Legal History,' in the American studies department at the College. It was a great experience and the students really liked it as well. I have been invited back to teach it in Spring 2018. In connection with that, I got a (very) small apartment on the Upper West Side, convenient to Columbia and Lincoln Center, and I plan to spend several months a year in New York for the first time since graduating."

I was so sorry to hear from **Paul de Bary** that his dad passed away. This issue covers Ted de Bary '41, GSAS'53's extraordinary life in "Obituaries." I did want to share that Ted and Paul were at every home game through the years. Halle and I sat next to them at many of the games this past year. I am sure Ted held the fan record for attendance. And we all saw a win at Homecoming last year. Paul and I will do the best we can to represent Ted. Go Lions!

Hope to hear from more of the class and most importantly, hope all of you are well and enjoying each day. If you are going to be in Miami this fall, please get a hold of me.

1969

Michael Oberman
Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
1177 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
moberman@kramerlevin.com

On Class Day, I once more carried our Class of 1969 banner in the Alumni Parade of Classes. This year, I was joined by **George Lindsay,** who was celebrating the graduation of niece Sally '17 (daughter of George's brother Charles Lindsay '75).

Frank Eld shared the April/May 2017 issue of *Treasure* magazine (a publication of Boise's *Idaho Statesman* newspaper), which has Frank on the cover posed in front of an 1893 house (the Jones House) that Frank and his wife, Kathy, saved from demolition, personally restored and now call home in Boise. This is not Frank's first renovation project; he spent some 40 years preserving, restoring and giving life to the village of Roseberry, Idaho. Frank acquired the Roseberry General Store, and then houses, cabins, a church and a barn — 22 buildings in all. Frank's efforts have helped preserve many Finnish buildings along with Finnish heritage. Frank is retired from teaching history and industrial arts in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, allowing more time for renovations.

For the Jones House, Frank did most of the restoration work with his brothers (Larry, Dale and Mac), bringing out the historic details (but for the modern kitchen Kathy asked for, after years of using a 1920s stove in their Roseberry home). The magazine article is richly illustrated, showing details of the house and of Frank with top hat, three-piece suit, watch chain and walking stick. Prominently on display are Frank's framed Columbia diploma and freshman beanie. The house also displays a loaf of Finnish bread from the last batch Frank's mother made before she died.

This is clearly a story of a classmate living out a passion. Here is the link to the article: bit.ly/2wydjAl.

Frank also sent me an update on July 23: "I am currently on my longest research trip. I have been through the Upper Peninsula, Canada, Vermont and Maine and am heading for New Hampshire searching for and documenting original Finnish log construction. The New England states don't have large log buildings, but the Finns built saunas on the farms they moved onto and so far I have found six. I have been on the road more than 50 days. I present programs on my research at various Finnish communities as I go. I was to be in Massachusetts for a big summer festival on August 25. The whole trip will probably last four months."

From **John Lombardo** PS'73: "I have left the practice of surgical ophthalmology after 35 years, and I've been elected president of Medical Liability Mutual Insurance Co. (MLMIC), the second-largest medical liability insurance company in the nation. The people are great, the mission is noble and I couldn't be happier. MLMIC, in turn, is being acquired by Berkshire Hathaway, and we are all excited about the future here. I continue to spend painful Saturdays at Robert K. Kraft Field, and I'm a longtime season ticketholder for our basketball team. My wife, Alix, has agreed that, if I predecease her, she'll spread some of my ashes at the field."

Bill Stark reports: "Today, June 2, was the last day of my 'run every day' streak that started September 10, 1976. I had surgery for a hernia, and I intend to obey the doctor's orders because I hope to eventually get back to running every day that wonderful distance (about 40 miles per week) that makes me feel so good. For everybody who told me how amazing my record was, I have replied that I certainly was amazed myself. Perhaps the best part was to serve as an inspiration to others."

Bill's running streak lasted 14,876 days (40 years, 266 days), was the ninth-longest active running streak in the world when it ended and is now listed as the fifth-longest retired running streak in the United States (and sixth-longest retired streak in the world) by the United States Running Streak Association.

From **Mike Schell:** "My wife, Kathy, and I moved full-time to Cape Cod (Chatham), Mass., in June 2016. The Cape (and the Commonwealth to a large degree) aspire to achievement of the Blue Economy (and succeed significantly). We frequently engage with our three children and one grandchild (married daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter in Washington, D.C.; son in Washington, D.C., working for Everytown for Gun Safety; son in New York City lawyering for a BigLaw firm). I stay in touch with classmates around the country — among others, **Peter Clapp, Hilton Obenzinger, Hank Reichman, Ben Sandick** and **David Turner.** I sit on two nonprofit boards (Lake Forest Academy in Illinois, which I chair, and Better Markets in Washington, D.C.). I've been active in pretty much every political campaign in which I was a voter since 2015 (and many before that). I walk five to eight miles a day, play tennis three times a week from April to December 1 and otherwise stay busy reading and generally staying healthy and informed — as best I can. Now and then, I will take on a pro bono project of one description or another, most often with a legal cast to it."

Eric Branfman writes: "In March, I retired from the practice of law after 45 years. I spent the first 10 as an antitrust lawyer, the next 10 as a complex-case litigator and the final 25 as a telecom lawyer, largely representing new entrants into telephone and related markets. Ten days after I retired, my wife, Beverly, and I moved from our house in D.C., where we had lived for 45 years, to a condo right across the line in Maryland. One great thing about retiring is that I now have more time for my lifelong hobbies of bridge and golf. Between them and all the work involved in getting our house ready for sale, moving and renovating the new apartment, I've found no trouble in filling all the hours that are no longer devoted to work. My children, Melissa '06 and Josh '09, enjoyed New York so much during their years at the College that they both live in Brooklyn."

From **Steve Mangold:** "After a professional photography career, I started a nonprofit that built orphanages for girls in Oaxaca, Mexico. We also funded an innovative community medical education program, Niño a Niño, which the UN in 1992 called one of the two most effective health initiatives in the world. It continues its work in Oaxaca state today. Wanting to learn more about nonprofits, I became the communications and development manager for Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties. I built its brand to

be the dominant hunger and poverty charity in our area, increasing the donor base from 5,000 to 36,000 in five years. I shared in the awarding of a Public Relations Society of America Silver Anvil, the industry's most prestigious award, for promoting the nation's largest canned food drive. I next joined one of the oldest Silicon Valley PR agencies in 1996 and became co-owner in 1998. We were the third-largest healthcare agency west of the Mississippi and also represented tech brands such as Apple, Applied Materials, Knight Ridder Digital and Synopsys, as well as numerous nonprofits, retailers and events. Our company was twice named 'Most Outstanding Agency Outside New York City' by the League of American Communications Professionals. In 2009, I formed Brand Cowboys as a virtual agency with contractors, and we specialize in supporting fundraising campaigns with strategic messaging and relentless media coverage. Recent clients include Symphony Silicon Valley, the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo's $30 million capital campaign and the successful $950 million Measure A Affordable Housing bond campaign. I am active in the San Jose Rotary Club and was a trustee of the Verde Valley School in Sedona for 16 years. I am married to a retired psychoanalyst and we have a 37-year-old daughter."

Bill Giusti writes: "I retired from the practice of law in 2014 as a result of the good fortune of having lived long enough to bump up against my firm's mandatory retirement age (and its non-compete clause). I hated retirement. I had an office at my old firm, came in five days a week, tried to keep up with developments in my practice area and roamed the halls asking 'Don't you need my advice?' Typically, no one would respond. And my wife didn't relish having me around 24/7. What to do? Early in my career, I was in charge of lawyer hiring at my old firm and worked quite a bit with legal recruiting firms. Last year, I ran into one of the pioneers in the industry: Lynn Mestel. I told Lynn my tale of woe — 'I'm retired. They forced me to retire. I can't compete. I'm miserable.' Lynn suggested I join her firm. So I did. I'm now an executive director at Mestel & Co. in New York, responsible for recruiting and placing law-firm partners and for arranging law-firm mergers. This keeps me in touch with people, and I help younger lawyers advance their careers. I'm having a great time."

1970

Leo G. Kailas
Reitler Kailas & Rosenblatt
885 Third Ave., 20th Fl.
New York, NY 10022
lkailas@reitlerlaw.com

For this issue, I received notes from old friends, as well as several first-time contributors. **Dov Zakheim** reports, "In the 'we are all getting older' department: My oldest grandson, JJ, graduated from Frisch H.S. in the spring!"

I suspect that grandson will find his way to Columbia, where Dov's two sons matriculated.

Larry Rosenwald GSAS'79 notes, "I'm venturing into a new mode of criticism, with a piece forthcoming in 'First of the Month' on Patty Jenkins' *Wonder Woman* as seen from a pacifist perspective — 'a new mode of criticism' in that it's an online journal rather than a print one, and also in that though I love superhero movies and have seen a zillion of them, this is the first time I've written analytically about one of them."

My friend **David Lehman**, who edits *Best American Poetry*, a publication that is well worth a read, updated me as follows: "Since May 2014, I have been writing the 'Next Line, Please' column — and served as quizmaster of our poetry challenges — for *The American Scholar* online. Each week I give a prompt; people submit their poems and the following week I review the entries and pick the winners. We made a book consisting of most of the columns posted between May 2014 and October 2016, and it will be published by Cornell University Press in March 2018. Anyone can play; see this online: bit.ly/2uhfwKY. My latest 'Masterpiece' column on Shelley's 'Ozymandias' appeared in *The Wall Street Journal* on June 23, under the heading 'What Trumps Vain Boasts.'"

First-time contributor **Ashok Mahadevan** and I exchanged interesting notes about the derivation of my last name, which is Greek but also is the name of the mountain in Tibet where Shiva lives. Ashok reports, "Two possibly newsworthy items about my life: 1.) I've finally got a smartphone and am discovering the joys of WhatsApp and 2.) I'm going to trek to Everest Base Camp (not the summit, I must make clear) in October."

First-time contributor **Juan Uranga** writes, "Retiring after 43 years acting as attorney for farmworkers in the Salinas and Pajaro valleys of California. For most of those years, I have been the attorney at an organization that organizes farmworkers at the neighborhood level, develops their leadership capacity and partners them with existing stakeholders who help them forge power relationships with decision makers. My wife, Anna Caballero, is back in the state legislature after serving for five years in Gov. Jerry Brown's cabinet. My retirement plan is to spend as much time as possible with Anna, both in Sacramento and Salinas; return to playing golf routinely; and attend a football game at every major college football venue in the country (already done 10, including Robert K. Kraft Field)."

And another first-time contributor, **Joseph Spivack**, writes, "Retired from full-time work on January 1. Spending time doing angel investing in start-ups, managing investments, working out, traveling with my wife, Lynn Appelbaum, and hiking. Loving it so far! Angel investing allows you to spend time with a lot of smart and interesting people! Before retirement, I worked for a bank consulting firm doing stress tests for smaller community banks. May do some part-time work for the same firm."

Joe can be reached at spivack@yahoo.com, 201-410-5186 or linkedin.com/in/joespivack.

Thanks to all who wrote in. Please keep the notes coming for the Winter 2017–18 issue; I'm at lkailas@reitlerlaw.com.

1971

Jim Shaw
139 North 22nd St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
jes200@columbia.edu

Don Linder GSAS'76: "Since the 1970s, I've done a lot of things in a lot of parts of the world, primarily a combo of educational and arts administration, plus my writing, which has always been my first love.

"In 2001 I moved to Thailand when I was asked to become the academic director of the American University Alumni Language Center, the largest English language institute in the world — 18 branches, 15,000 students, 600 faculty/managers, headquartered in Bangkok.

"In 2004, I formed my own consulting company working with educational institutions, government departments, NGOs, arts organizations and private businesses. In 2010, my wife and I moved to Chiang Mai, in the north of Thailand, where I 'semi-retired,' allowing me to pursue my writing full-time. In 2014 I wrote my first feature-length film, *The Last Executioner*, which had its international premiere by invitation at the Shanghai International Film Festival, where it won Best Actor.

"In 2015, at Thailand's equivalent of the Golden Globes — the Tukata Tong Awards — the film took home the Best Film and Best Screenplay Awards. The Tukata Tong Awards have been presented since 1958, when they were originally given by the king. In all those years, I was the first non-Thai to win the award. The film went on to play at more than 100 film festivals worldwide (including NYC) to some great critical acclaim. *The Last Executioner* is available on Netflix.

"Since then I have finished writing another film, *Dark Karma*, slated to go into production later this year. I am working on *A Hmong Requiem* for a French production team, with a projected release of late 2018/early 2019.

"I live in Chiang Mai with my wife, Wannida Jiratha, and my heart will always be on the Upper West Side. We welcome any Columbia alumni who pass this way, or are considering it, to get in touch (donlinder@gmail.com). Thanks for doing the Class Notes for our class all these years. It's been a wonderful way for me to stay in touch to a degree in the far reaches of the world."

Michael Straus GSAS'09: "In my last update, a few years ago, I noted my completion of graduate studies in ancient Greek at the University of Cambridge — call it the benefits of early retirement from practicing law, a mid-life crisis or whatever you wish.

"More recently, I've completed the translation of a long poem (200-plus pages) by Chilean poet and Nobel Laureate Pablo Neruda,

which remarkably enough had never been translated into English in part, let alone whole.

"I was pleased to be able to publish an excerpt from the translation in the current issue of *Columbia Journal*, the University's literary magazine. For now, it's only available in hard copy; on the odd chance anyone would like to read it, it's obtainable online at bit.ly/2wypLjP. Another excerpt was also published by the *Missouri Review* and it's available online at bit.ly/2xssBTP.

"Beyond that, the entire poem now has a publisher; is in final editing stages; and will be accompanied by an essay by one of Columbia's Spanish professors, so all in all a very satisfying venture."

"A Summer of Sculpture at the Cathedral" features **Greg Wyatt**, cathedral artist in residence, with his sculptures *The Peace Foundation* and *Animals of Freedom*. The exhibition, also featuring the National Sculpture Society and the Arts Students League of New York, ran through September 10, 2017. *The Peace Fountain* is a 40-ft. monument permanently installed on the Great Lawn of the Close of the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, at West 112th Street and Amsterdam Avenue in Morningside Heights.

I (**Jim Shaw**) was one of five high school classmates at Jamaica H.S., a public neighborhood high school, to attend Columbia; another five attended Barnard. **Doug MacKay** passed away from illness at a shockingly young age. It was great to see Arno Hecht '72, **Karl Klapper** and **Steve Varady SEAS'71** at the 50th high school reunion in June. We outlasted the high school itself; to see why, and to see how public education has changed, go online to bit.ly/2wEJuO6 or just search 'Jamaica High School *New Yorker*.' I am told that the building now houses four smaller high schools.

Steve Varady writes: "I was recently found in the 96th Street and 2nd Avenue subway station by **Terry Chorba** and a few days earlier at a high school 50th reunion by **Jim Shaw.** After Columbia, I had the good fortune to go to medical school in Boston. Then I trained in surgery and urology, also in Boston. I practiced in West Palm Beach full-time till 2015, and am part-time and office-only now. I've had a lovely marriage for 40 years, and two fine sons.

"Would I pursue medicine now, if I were starting over again? Being a doctor has been a wonderful way to do good and do well. Enormously gratifying, but also occasionally very frustrating. Never been bored. Never had serious 'money problems,' which has certainly been important. We live modestly, have great deal of love in our lives and with our children, and have reasonable expectations. Within that broad description, my career has worked for me, and very many patients over the years. I sometimes feel I did urology as a way of having a career including surgery, which was a means of being a doctor, which allowed me to have good work and do good work as a people-person.

"My main hobby has been trying to learn to play piano, with lessons and with an annual total-immersion in a piano camp. A difficult undertaking for an adult, but very satisfying. Contact me if you are trying something like this. I would love to hear from class members.

"One son did significant work on the engineering of a lead-less cardiac defibrillator and pacemaker, and the other is a healthcare consultant. I spent all of my career in a fee-for-service environment. There are many arguments suggesting this is outmoded, expensive and so on. Yet, most physicians respond to incentives closer to fee-for-service than anything else, and it would be a shame if we threw out the baby with the bathwater, in this regard."

I write this Class Notes column and submit it several months before publication. Obituaries are written by *CCT* staff. I know that when you read *CCT* you often turn to the Class Notes column first. With regret, I now suggest that you also check the Obituaries section, near the back of *CCT*. It is there in the Summer 2017 issue that I read this and more about **Mark Allen**, whom I knew as a fine fellow: "He was a principal scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Caltech for 37 years. An astrochemist, he developed a chemical model to study the atmospheres of Earth and other planets, comets, interstellar space and exoplanets. Among his activities at the College were four years on the Ferris Booth Hall Board of Managers, of which he was president in his senior year. Among his survivors are his wife of 34 years, Emily Bergman. Memorial contributions can be made to Columbia College (college.columbia.edu/alumni/give) or Caltech."

Remember back 51 (*fifty-one!*) Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

Sean Wilentz '72, a professor of history at Princeton, delivered a thoughtful essay on Donald Trump and Bob Dylan at Reunion 2017.

1972

Paul S. Appelbaum
39 Claremont Ave., #24
New York, NY 10027
pappel1@aol.com

This spring marked 45 years since we graduated from Columbia, and gave some of us a chance to reunite on campus to reflect on that experience and the years since. In addition to the walking tours (what better place to pay homage to the Columbia experience than with a visit to the Alexander Hamilton Homestead on Hamilton Heights?), lectures and other events in which all alumni could participate, the Class of '72 had an extensive program of its own. There were class receptions on Thursday and Friday evenings (the first hosted by **Rick Kurnit** at his law firm, the second arranged by **Bob Grey** at a gallery just off the High Line in Chelsea), a luncheon followed by a presentation and discussion on Saturday, and a dinner that evening.

Without a doubt, the luncheon program was very special. Here's **Wayne Cypen**'s description: "The highlight of the weekend was the class luncheon. Our distinguished classmate **Sean Wilentz,** a professor of history at Princeton, wrote and delivered a thoughtful essay on Donald Trump and Bob Dylan. Sean's presentation engendered a lively hour-long discussion of politics and other current events. The majority of those attending seemed to share a liberal viewpoint, while **Gerard Papa** heroically championed the conservative cause. We then went around the room, and each of us shared his story of where his life had come from and where it was going. Despite the small sampling, I was so impressed with the accomplishments of my fellow graduates and was proud to be among them."

You should know that during reunion, Wayne was honored for "lifetime achievement," commemorating his 37 consecutive years as chair of the Miami-area Alumni Representative Committee.

A great deal of planning went into the weekend, for which we owe renewed thanks to the group that put it all together. As **Rick Kurnit,** who led the discussion after our luncheon reflected, "It was a pleasure once again working with **Bob Grey, Mike Gerrard** and others in organizing venues for our class events. **Sean Wilentz** again generously agreed to anchor our Saturday afternoon and led us into a conversation about what we are each doing currently and how to navigate our next careers and the next 30 years — something that I expect will be an even more vibrant discussion [in the future], as many more are expected in five years for our 50th reunion, and more discussion of what 'retirement' means in a connected world where physical location is irrelevant."

As an example, Rick noted his plans: "I expect that I will continue to practice employment and marketing communications law at Frankfurt Kurnit for many more years as we grow past the 100-lawyer mark, but probably more out of the Los Angeles office and otherwise away from the office, as my clients more and more seek briefer consultations and more insight and less execution, at least until someone figures out how to move from time-based to value-based billing."

Other events during the weekend included class and alumni talks (I went to "The Future of News Media in the Trump Administration"), Broadway shows, the Wine Tasting and the Starlight Reception on Low Plaza, for those so inclined. And yet, **Wayne Cypen**'s observation

rings true: "There's probably no good way to sugarcoat the fact that, of about 700 in our class, only 25 or so registered for reunion."

It's difficult to convey in words how meaningful it is to reconnect with (and to meet) people with whom we shared one of the most formative periods in our lives. This won't be the last time that you hear this from me, but let me plant the seed now: Please plan to join us for our 50th reunion in 2022. I promise you that it will be an extraordinary experience.

1973

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Barry Etra
1256 Edmund Park Dr. NE
Atlanta, GA 30306
betra1@bellsouth.net

Hope your summer went well. Not much this time, but not for lack of trying! Please send your news to either of the addresses above for the Winter 2017–18 issue!

James Minter reported on Class Day, where he saw **Bob Pruznick** and **Diran Sohigian.** James and **Joe Seidner** were bemoaning our degenerating knees and hips — as James put it (aptly), "Who knew all these decades later we'd still be complaining about bad joints?"

James also sent the sad news that **Fred Schneider** had passed away in 2015 after losing a bout with cancer. Fred and his wife, Harriet Weinberger, lived in Brooklyn and were both attorneys.

B-dia, b-dia, b-dia, b-dia — until you write again. Hasta.

1974

Fred Bremer
532 W. 111th St.
New York, NY 10025
f.bremer@ml.com

"History doesn't repeat itself but it often rhymes." I was reminded of this quotation, attributed to Mark Twain, as I spoke with my daughter, Katie, last fall as she was about to leave to start her college career at American University in Washington, D.C. While nearly half a century later, it seemed possible (probable?) that she could be reenacting many of the major events of our college years. When I think back on our years on Morningside Heights, it seems that three issues dominated the political climate: The conservative backlash, the anti-war movement and the Watergate scandal. Will it be déjà vu?

In the late 1960s, the "silent majority" (often described as mainly comprising working class and middle-class whites) ushered in Richard Nixon as President in 1968. Nixon then worked to dismantle as much of Lyndon Johnson's liberal agenda as he could. During our college years, the "New Right" fought against higher taxes, environmental regulations and government restrictions on our free economy. This sounds remarkably similar to our current political environment.

After a decade of struggle in Vietnam, the United States invaded Cambodia in 1970, and hundreds of thousands of protesters filled the streets and closed college campuses (including Columbia). The shooting of students at Kent State and Jackson State University only inflamed the protests. American troops left Vietnam in 1973. The long intervention in the Middle East has not evoked the same public protests, but it is not outside the realm of possibility that political turmoil could once again arise during the next four years.

The 1972 break-in at the Democratic National Committee offices in the Watergate complex led to many months of congressional hearings. In April 1974, three articles of impeachment — including obstruction of justice — were levied against Nixon. Soon after our graduation, Nixon resigned before the impeachment process could be completed. When Gerald Ford took office, he quickly pardoned Nixon. As I write this in late summer, the press is full of speculation of the involvement of our current administration with the Russians, allegations of obstruction and the possibility of impeachment of our President.

If any of the above speculation proves true, my daughter should have an interesting four years on the politically active American University campus — and I will enjoy reliving our four wonderful undergraduate years on our equally politically active campus!

On a related note, we learn that **Abbe Lowell** has been retained by Jared Kushner, as reported in *Politico*, to "represent him in the special counsel's probe of potential Russian collusion with the Trump campaign and his financial dealings, as well as in separate congressional inquiries." While that seems like a full-time job, Abbe is also currently representing Sen. Bob Menendez (D-N.J.), who is charged with corruption and is facing trial this year.

Both may be fascinating political drama, but not nearly as intriguing to the prurient as the defense of Bill Clinton in the Monica Lewinsky and Paula Jones sex scandals!

After leaving his position of 30 years as a director at the McKinsey & Company consulting firm in 2008, **Bill Meehan** made his 10-year part-time teaching at the Stanford Business School a full-time career. He has continued to concentrate on the strategic management of nonprofits and social ventures. While serving on the boards of numerous nonprofits and public companies (including Juniper Networks), Bill has still found time to write. His latest page-turner is *Engine of Impact: Essentials of Strategic Leadership in the Nonprofit Sector.*

We saw a short post on Facebook from **Tom Sawicki** JRN'77, where he tells us that his son, Amitai, recently started clinical training at the Tel Aviv University Medical School. Tom is director of programming at AIPAC Israel and a longtime Jerusalem resident.

Early last summer **Scott Kunst** retired from Old House Gardens, the heirloom bulb company in Ann Arbor, Mich., that he started almost a quarter-century ago. The company has been featured in *The Wall Street Journal* several times and Scott even made an appearance on Martha Stewart's television show. Coming just in time to help Scott ease into retirement is a second grandson, Nolan, via his son Scott St. Claire. This grandson is only an hour's drive away — closer than his first, Benjamin (via son David), in San Francisco — but an excuse to fly to San Fran seems perfect for a retiree!

After a 31-year stint as literary editor at *The New Republic*, **Leon Wieseltier** quit in 2014 in a dispute over the plan for the magazine to change to a digital format. While still the Isaiah Berlin Senior Fellow of Culture and Policy at the Brookings Institution, it looks like Leon is looking to expand this interest. About a year ago we started reading that he was going into business with Laurene Powell Jobs, widow of Apple's Steve Jobs. Seems they are starting a journal that will comment on the effects of technology on our lives. More details to follow in a future column.

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of Rev. Dr. **Lewis Anthony** on May 28, 2017, from liver cancer. He was described in *The Washington Post* as "a loquacious pastor in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion church who long straddled the city's religious and political communities with his outreach ventures" and that he "was regarded as one of the city's most eloquent and in-demand speakers." It needs to be noted that Lewis never accepted an honorarium, saying "it's hard for me to accept money for the gift that God has given me for speaking."

Lewis was a graduate of Harvard Law and served in the administrations of Washington, D.C.'s first two elected mayors. In 2000 he was in the first class of inductees into the Washington, D.C., Hall of Fame Society. It is worth googling "Rev. Lewis Anthony" to hear several clips of his captivating sermons.

There you have it. The prospect of déjà vu of our college years along with new careers, new grandchildren and, unfortunately, some sadness. Whatever is happening in your life, take a moment to pass it on.

1975

Randy Nichols
734 S. Linwood Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21224
rcn2day@gmail.com

Jim Dolan sent this recently, and it's just too good to edit: "In early May I had the opportunity to spend an afternoon with my high school (St. John's College H.S. in D.C.) and CC'75 buddy, Fr. **CJ McCloskey III.** CJ had spent much of the past decade in Chicago and then Silicon Valley, but now happily resides back on the East Coast in Reston, Va.,

and is thankful to be back in the land of his beloved Redskins and Nats. We had a chance to get into the wayback machine and talk about the '72 Strike, how the two of us made a decision to take Roger Hilsman's class at the School of International Affairs and how CJ was able to con his way into Lionel Trilling '25, GSAS'38's seminar, which was not an easy ticket back then. Also, remembering that CJ had introduced me to squash with then-Admissions Director Mike Lacopo along with some funny reminiscences about the old and infamous Columbia swimming test. It was a wonderful afternoon with a really great friend, someone whom I had not seen *facie ad faciem* in more than 25 years."

Fr. John is in residence at the Reston Study Center in Reston, Va.

Speaking of Philly and my new gig, yours truly (**Randy Nichols**) is now on assignment at that Ivy League institution in Philadelphia, on a long-term project. As I lived outside of Philadelphia for many years, it's a familiar and comfortable place to be. The Acela takes only a little more than an hour and is usually an easy trip. Hotel hopping, but the client pays the bills, so I'm living reasonably.

I continue my involvement with tall ships. At the *Pride II of Baltimore*'s recent gala, I spent a bundle on a one-of-a-kind 18-ft. pennant that had flown on the *Pride*. Now, it billows from the ceiling in my tall ships basement. In June, I went to Boston for Sail Boston 2017 and hosted the captain and crew of the *Pride* for dinner at Jacob Wirth. (The beer bill was approximately twice the food bill. Sailors, LOL!) The next day, watching 50-some ships sail into Boston harbor was awesome!

Joseph Polizzotto is now SVP, strategy and client services for QuisLex in New York City. Prior to joining QuisLex, Joe was Deutsche Bank general counsel-Americas and previously general counsel of Lehman Brothers.

Forunato "Fred" Senatore SEAS'77 earned a master's in bioengineering from SEAS, under the supervision of Professor Harry Gregor (now deceased), followed by a Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Rutgers in December 1982. Fred married Susan Spielvogel BC'78 in January 1983 and they moved to Lubbock, Texas, where he was an assistant professor of chemical engineering at the Texas Tech University School of Engineering. Fred was fortunate to receive multiple grants, allowing him to retain graduate students and post-docs. His research transformed from pumps, pipes and fluid mechanics, to artificial organs and blood flow through vascular prostheses. Fred became a full-time matriculated medical student at the Texas Tech University School of Medicine 1987–91 while continuing his responsibilities as assistant professor of chemical engineering. In January 1991, he and Susan had daughter Gabriella ("Gabby") Elizabeth Senatore. He graduated from medical school in 1991 and matched in internal medicine at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. In January 1994, Fred and Susan were blessed with daughter Eva Genia Senatore. Upon completion of his residency, Fred matched in cardiology at Harvard's Massachusetts General Hospital. After his fellowship, he embarked on a clinical research path by joining the pharmaceutical industry and remained in the pharmaceutical industry 1996–2012 (Merck, Aventis, Sankyo, Mitsubishi). In 2012, Fred joined the FDA as a medical officer in the Division of Cardiovascular and Renal Products. He's been at the FDA to date.

Gabby earned a B.A. from Marymount and a master's from Emerson and is a teacher. Eva earned an B.A. from Hunter College and is a studio makeup artist, working in productions where she transforms actors' appearances (aging, wounded, etc.). Fred lives in Bethesda, Md., near his job in Washington, D.C. Susan lives at their home in Bridgewater, N.J. — they have a FaceTime marriage. Fred goes to the Smithsonian, travels to New Jersey on weekends and often goes to NYC with Susan. He is a fitness fanatic, trying to stave off the aging process, and plays piano and accordion. Susan has been publishing books on her paternal family's tragedy as victims of the Holocaust. Fred would like to connect with other Lions — especially classmates and others working in government — in the D.C. area.

Bob Schneider and his wife, Regina Mullahy BC'75, are truly now empty-nesters. While daughter Meg hasn't lived with them for several years, she has spent summers with them as she completed her graduate work at Rice University. Meg graduated in May. She and Regina toured northern Europe this past summer before Meg moved to Chicago, where she took a position with Gallup Consulting. Regina and Bob spent a week with Meg in the Windy City in June, sightseeing, getting her settled in and celebrating Bob's birthday.

1976

Ken Howitt
1114 Hudson St., Apt. 8
Hoboken, N.J. 07030
kenhowitt76@gmail.com

Greetings '76ers! Not many updates. I did get to Syracuse again to see Linda and **Dennis Goodrich.** Of course, Dennis is becoming a regular feature of this column. All of their international trips were previewed in the last column, but I can now report that there is a new addition to their home — Mika, a tiny puppy with a great deal of energy and (like her namesake) strong opinions.

I heard from **Terry Corrigan,** in Hilton Head. His update is simple: "Health is good, golf is deteriorating, Belize is looking better every day."

In addition, Terry and his wife recently hosted a member of the Class of 2017. It's a great story: "We have a young lady staying with us for a week to compete in the North and South Tournament — the second oldest and second most prestigious women's amateur golf event in the U.S.," writes Terry. "Her name is Jackie Chulya '17. At Columbia, she had a double major in math and economics, and was the unanimous choice for Ivy League player of the year. She has also won the LPGA Foundation's Dinah Shore Award for students who excel in both golf and academics, and who demonstrate outstanding leadership skills and community service. Alas, Jackie was eliminated on the 18th hole of a hard-fought match. She actually played better today than her first two days, but unfortunately came up against a girl who was putting exceptionally well. She'll be with us for another couple of days playing golf, basking by the pool and sampling Southern cuisine. In the fall, she plans to play the LPGA's Symetra Tour and I hope will do well enough to earn a spot on the regular LPGA Tour." [Editor's note: See "Student Spotlight," Spring 2017.]

Those are the only two updates, so here's a quick story about my first alumni contribution to Columbia. After spending four years working in the sports department of WKCR, in fall 1976 it was difficult to sit in the stands and watch Columbia basketball. As usual, I traveled to road games and watched Columbia beat Rutgers at The Barn (the Rutgers on-campus home court before the current Piscataway facility). That game was a huge upset, with Alton Byrd '79 and Ricky Free '79 leading the Lions to victory in their first varsity season.

After that game, I came back to a seat in Levien Gym and was frustrated at the lack of enthusiasm during our games. It had been nine years since our Ivy Championship in 1968, and the fans were numb from years of less-than-stellar basketball. Alton and Ricky would lead a resurgence under Coach Tom Penders, and the gym was electric as their careers continued. However, in December 1976, that was yet the case.

So, I went to Athletic Director Al Paul and volunteered to be the Columbia Lion. Let me make it clear, that I was not Roar-ee — I was Leo D'Lion, a much more realistic fur rendition of a lion than the current mascot. Al agreed to allow me two alcoholic beverages after each game in the Lou Gehrig Lounge, which at that time had liquor and a piano! I cheered like a crazy Lion for the remaining December games and the entire Ivy League season — both home and road. One thing I learned was that if you are wearing a lion suit, crazy is the baseline.

I had a couple of gimmicks, and one was that I shot free throws prior to the team warmup at the beginning of the game and during halftime. I have never admitted it before, but I used to go to Levien Gymnasium in the afternoon, suit up, and practice my free throws. I discovered that I also had to wear the head in order to simulate "game conditions."

Word spread, and I was soon facing the opposition mascots during road games in free throw shooting contests. The Princeton game away was great. The Tiger was a Princeton junior who had gained notoriety by writing a paper about designing an atomic bomb using publicly available books and papers. However, he could not match my 8-for-10 performance from the free throw line.

Over the years, I have continued to volunteer my time to many different areas of the College, but as I reflect, my year as the Lion remains a favorite.

Keep those updates coming and remember — if you are heading to NYC, I am an eight-minute Hoboken ferry ride from meeting you for lunch!

1977

David Gorman
111 Regal Dr.
DeKalb, IL 60115
dgorman@niu.edu

No news this time, gents. We'd love to hear from you for the Winter 2017–18 issue, so please write in to tell us what's new — or not so new, if you prefer to share your favorite College memories!

1978

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Matthew Nemerson
35 Huntington St.
New Haven, CT 06511
matthewnemerson@gmail.com

International maven **Chris Dell** has many plans, from Europe to good ol' New Jersey: "I've sort of retired, at least from full-time work. Pursuing a few small things as part-time projects in power and infrastructure in Southern Africa and a possible project to turn coal in Bulgaria into power, fuel and petrochemicals through a modern, clean technology focused on carbon capture. To keep my mind alert, I'm also spending time with the history of the Portuguese Discoveries.

"We recently bought an old windmill in a wine region outside Lisbon and I plan to spend time there this autumn fixing it up. I have also written some policy ideas for Phil Murphy, a former ambassadorial colleague and the Democratic candidate for governor in New Jersey. In short, an eclectic variety of things, maybe one of which will really take off (well, not the windmill, I hope)."

More news from the Garden State, as **Marc Matsil** is the new director of The U.S. Green Building Council New Jersey Chapter. "From NYC's stressed urban communities to NJ's most populated cities and suburbs, and the far reaches of Juneau, Alaska, Marc has worked to advance resilience, conservation and restoration strategies to reduce the carbon footprint," the council noted.

"In the advent of climate change — sea level rise and greater storm intensities, USGBC NJ's mission is to transform the state's built environment into an ecologically resilient and sustainable system, reduce energy consumption and carbon inputs, to result in healthier, greener communities. Through education, advocacy and growth of its LEED program, and collaboration with our partners, this can be achieved," said Marc, who is also appointed to boards and task forces including The German Marshall Fund Transatlantic Cities Forum; City of NY Water Infrastructure Task Force and the Regional Plan Association's Fourth Regional Plan Committee.

We received a detailed account of the goings-on in Israel from our regular Middle East correspondent, **Gary Pickholz** SIPA'81: "**David Freidman** hosted the annual July 4 dinner at the Ambassador's Residence for the diplomatic corps, Israeli government officials and about 200 others.

"He bought me a proper hot dog, smoked beef and Jack Daniel's. There followed fantastic fireworks over the beachfront on the Zionist Riviera. I sat with the British and Indian ambassadors and their wives, and retired Connecticut senator Joe Lieberman and his wife, Hadassah."

When I had a catering company in high school, we used to serve at Joe's State Senate campaign events and he later wrote my recommendation for graduate school at Yale.

Gary continues, "Dave spoke from the heart, noting his background was as a modest rabbi's son, and the last time he hosted a dinner in Israel was 45 years ago, at his bar mitzvah. Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu countered in his reply toast that *his* bar mitzvah was, in fact, in Philly, not Israel, underscoring the intimate ties between the two nations … and *my* father was the rabbi of that synagogue! (Netanyahu's father was a professor of Jewish history and thought at Penn at the time and my father earned his Ph.D. from him.)

"Also stuffing down all the smoked American beef with all the Jack Daniel's one could possibly digest were SIPA/GSAS classmates Dore Gold '75, SIPA'79, GSAS'84 and Michael Oren '77, SIPA'78, both presently Israeli government officials and former American ambassadors. Dore recently departed as deputy general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Michael is a rapidly rising member of the Knesset. The ambassador noted that his father's closing benediction from the pulpit every Shabbat morning was King David's psalm for peace, which notes that the Lord enforces peace through strength."

Paul Phillips GSAS'80 writes for the first time from his new home across the country: "On July 1, I became director of orchestral studies and associate professor of music at Stanford. This spring I accepted the offer from Stanford after having served for 28 years as director of orchestras and chamber music at Brown. My wife, Kathryne Jennings, will be lecturer in music at Stanford, teaching voice in the music and theater departments. Our older daughter, Joanna '12, a film editor based in Los Angeles, is excited that her parents will be joining her on the West Coast, while Alanna, who graduated from Providence Country Day School in June, is attending the University of Vermont as a first-year."

Another one of our musical regulars, **Henry Aronson,** writes, "*Loveless Texas*, the musical I wrote with my wife, Cailín Heffernan, came out at the Sheen Center in NYC this September — so if you love fun new American musicals, hustle down to see it!

"I'm also starting a gig as music supervisor for *The Voice Remastered,* the live show at the Hard Rock in Las Vegas showcasing talent from NBC's *The Voice,* coming in March 2018. And there is more touring with *Rocktopia Live*, the concert event that combines classic rock with classical music."

Noting a new position is **Joseph Schachner** SEAS'79: "Since last August I am a grandfather! And at work, despite my goal to remain a senior software engineer forever, the manager of our group retired and I was the logical replacement, so now I not only mentor junior engineers but also I am now responsible for their work and have to write progress reports for upper management. As it has been explained to me, I'm too valuable as a senior software engineer to let me just be a manager, so I get to schedule myself for projects and work on them in some fraction of my time. Honestly, it's better that way."

Recently back from an exciting adventure is New York doctor **Alex Demac.** "I took a father-son trip to Spain and southern France in June with my 19-year-old son, Denham, a junior majoring in theater and creative writing. We rode the clean and quiet subways in Madrid, were impressed that Spain now gets more than half of its power from renewable sources and learned that a train line is being built between Paris and Bordeaux that will cover the 363-mile trip in two hours.

"We were moved by Picasso's *Guernica*, horrified and fascinated by six bullfights and delighted by the Salvador Dali Theatre-Museum. I returned to my beloved NYC, wondered why the subway platforms look like they haven't been mopped or scrubbed in a millennium, then took the elevator to the top of the One World Trade Center Observatory, looked out the window and was glad to be home!"

From the wilds of Glasgow, Mont., comes news from doctor **Robert Crochelt:** "I'm still doing general surgery in a critical access hospital in northeast Montana. Hoping for no local wildfires; they have been all around us. Hoping the wildfire in Washington, D.C., doesn't put us, and many other critical access hospitals, out of business."

Work in small government here in New Haven continues to be fascinating and stimulating, and I can't imagine a better group of folks to be thrown into a small lifeboat on a raging sea with. Our state budget is a mess, the key federal programs we rely on are all slated to be cut and our needs grow well beyond what we can ever hope to secure. And yet … we have balanced the budget, brought in almost a half-billion in development and are really working to figure out how to keep our twin roles as the state's technology and global gateway while also being the most humane place in the state for all those with real needs who have been displaced from the post-industrial economy.

If anyone has any good ideas about what's going to happen in real life next, please let us know. While I think CC and Lit Hum prepared us as well as anything could for USA 2017, I haven't quite figured out what it all means yet. So I guess the good thing is that 40 years out, we are still innocents discovering an uncharted world.

1979

Robert Klapper
8737 Beverly Blvd., Ste 303
Los Angeles, CA 90048
robertklappermd@aol.com

Florindo Troncelliti lives in Morningside Heights and updates us that he is "working to grow the Manhattan chapter of Peace Action New York State. We're in the push to eliminate nuclear weapons. New members and contributions always welcome! Do some freelance writing, mostly about opera. Produce a weekly TV show on MNN: *Peace News*. And, by the way, I'm running for City Council: District 7, on the Green Party ticket. Don't forget to register and to vote this November. Be well!"

David Thomson: "Thanks for keeping the flame alive — I enjoy reading Class Notes every issue. And thanks for asking for an update.

"After Columbia, I went to law school at Vanderbilt. Yeah, Tennessee, the other side of Mars from Morningside Heights. But that was intentional; I wanted a different experience in a different place, and I got that. (How many bluegrass tunes do you know?) I returned to New York, working for a law firm at 30 Rock, where I got my feet wet in the litigation department. After a few years, I went to the Department of Justice in Washington as a trial attorney in the environmental enforcement section, litigating pollution cases on behalf of the EPA. I moved to a law firm in my first wife's hometown (Denver) in 1990. The marriage did not last, but the location did. I have been happily married to Kathy (née Russel) for 22 years and we have two daughters, Angelina (20) and Sarah-Jane (15). While practicing in the '90s, I discovered a love for teaching and in 2003 became a full-time member of the University of Denver's faculty, where I have been ever since. I love living in Denver but I get back to 116th and Broadway at least once a year, recently hosting a high school reunion after-party on the Low Steps; when I need a New York fix, it's just a three-hour flight away. In Denver, we enjoy 300 days of sun per year, mountains, trails, bike paths, trains that work and all the same Broadway shows (a year or two late). When global warming floods the coasts, y'all come to the Mile High City, OK?"

Robert Klapper: "This Columbia memory comes from a ridiculous conversation I had on the phone fighting with my credit card company (MasterCard, hate them) regarding why I could not use my card to pump gas.

"This led to a conversation with a stranger in the Philippines. The gas station is in Encino, Calif., and the credit card is based in Chicago, but somehow some guy in Manila is going to give me permission to put gasoline in my car. If this makes any sense to you, it's time to run for election.

"The conversation began with '… In order to proceed, I need to ask you a couple of questions. 1. What breed is your favorite dog? 2. Which brunette starred in your favorite movie?' After failing to give an appropriate answer to the first two questions, he then asked me the one question I actually could remember because clearly my password had gone in one ear and out the other. He asked me for my Social Security number.

"This nine-digit number rescued my car and my credit card, but it led to the Columbia memory that the current students would not believe was so critical to our journey at the College. Whenever I must write or recite this nine-digit number, I take an extra deep breath because I am so traumatized by this form of identification because of our four-year experience.

"Let me remind you that this is how we received our grades at the end of each semester. Walking across the quad into the bowels of the basement at the Bursar's building, trying to find — in a sea of glass cabinets — the class you just finished. In an effort to remain anonymous, Columbia used our Social Security Number as identification for our grade. My heart skips a beat still thinking about searching for my organic chemistry result 40 years ago.

"I remember the walk through those hallways in the basement of that building searching for my grade like it was yesterday. The expression, 'Sometimes you feel just like a number' is exactly how I felt. I might not remember what I had for breakfast yesterday, but thanks to Columbia College, those nine digits are burned into my brain and that guy in the Philippines got me to fill up my car.

"Roar, lion, roar!"



Guess which class alumni Lance Warrick, Larry Lubitz, Brooks Klimley and De Moyle Howell represented at the 2017 Alumni Parade of Classes?

1980

Michael C. Brown
London Terrace Towers
410 W. 24th St., Apt. 18F
New York, NY 10011
mcbcu80@yahoo.com

It's that time of year again, when the days of summer pass into beautiful fall nights. The city is radiant as the leaves in Central Park are changing and the smell of football is in the air. Coach Al Bagnoli has our Lions competing at the highest levels we've seen in years and it is only a matter of time before we see the Ivy title.

Dennis Costakos checked in from the Modern, where he had lunch with Dr. **George Yancopoulos** GSAS'86, PS'87, **Daniel Abella** and Neil deGrasse Tyson GSAS'92. Congratulations to Neil on becoming the first American scientist to win the Stephen Hawking Medal for his scientific writing. They enjoyed lunch and conversations worthy of a symposium Plato might describe, including general relativity, self-driving cars, current events and mentors at Columbia, including Coach Bill Campbell '62, TC'64.

Glad to see you all at Homecoming. Drop me a line at mcbcu80@yahoo.com.

1981

Kevin Fay
8300 Private Ln.
Annadale, VA 22003
kfay0516@gmail.com

My in-box this past quarter was very quiet, and as promised (or threatened), when this happens I am forced to share my own updates. First the news … We did hear from **Michael Pleters,** who resides in El Paso, Texas, with his wife, Veronica Escobar, and their children, Cristian and Eloisa. Michael was recently appointed as a U.S. immigration judge, which followed an 18-year stint with INS/DHS and three and a half years as assistant U.S. attorney. His wife is also a judge (with El Paso County) and is also a multiple contributor to *The New York Times* Op-Ed pages. Cristian has started his junior year at Harvard (yes, he chose Crimson over Light Blue!) and Eloisa has started her freshman year at Simmons College in Boston. Like many of us, Michael has fond memories of Cannon's, West End Café and Mama Joy's — veritable institutions when we were on campus.

Thanks so much for the update, Michael. What a talented family!

I reached out to **Lincoln Paine** to thank him for his book (tome) *The Sea and Civilization: A Maritime History of the World*. Every year I try to read at least one "significant" book. This year, I chose Lincoln's, as last year my wife and I spent two

weeks cruising around the Mediterranean and the cruise inspired me to read about maritime history. Since writing the book, Lincoln was invited to address the Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program. They were astonished at how inexpensive Columbia was in the late 1970s (it truly was), but also that Columbia lacked adequate housing for all its incoming class. If you enjoy reading well-researched and well-written books (such as Daniel Yergin's *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money & Power*), I highly recommend you read *The Sea and Civilization.*

Please send your updates for the Winter 2017–18 issue to me at kfay0516@gmail.com. Your classmates want to hear from you!

1982

Andrew Weisman
81 S. Garfield St.
Denver, CO 80209
weisman@comcast.net

Greetings, gents! I'm currently at the beach. I have no idea what's going on in the world. I've lost my will to watch the news. Turned off my internet connection after hearing something akin to "Nuclear war has broken out in Europe; more details after the sports news …" We're in the midst of a modern-day Cuban Missile Crisis and all we get is piffle about our new director of communications' potty mouth. What a waste …. [Editor's note: This note was submitted during Anthony Scaramucci's 10 days in office.]



David Filosa '82 (left) and Andy Weisman '82 prepared to sing *Sans Souci* at the Great Teacher Awards ceremony, held during Reunion 2017.

On a happier and more life-affirming note, I had an amazing time at reunion in June. All those in attendance did as well. The reception in the Lenfest Center for the Arts building at the new Manhattanville campus was a blast. Jim McMenamin, director of principal gifts and adviser to the dean, gave a wonderful talk about the construction initiatives at the University, while members of Columbia College and Columbia Engineering ate, drank and reminisced. For those of you who haven't seen the new campus, located just up Broadway around West 125th Street, it's really worth a visit.

The class dinner, held in Butler Library, was quite captivating. Our accomplished classmate (and heck of a nice guy!) **Michael Schmidtberger** gave a welcoming talk and introduced none other than the distinguished **Jamie Rubin** SIPA'84. Jamie delivered a fascinating talk on our President's foreign policy while patiently fielding dozens of questions.

Finally, yours truly had the distinct pleasure of presiding over the presentation of the Great Teacher Awards, presented annually by the Society of Columbia Graduates to celebrate great teaching at the College and Engineering. This year's winners were Professor Patricia Kitcher from the College and Professor Jaychandran Sethuraman from Columbia Engineering. Joining me at the event were Society Board members **Alex Moon** and **David Filosa.** This is such a heart-warming event, and it's open to any of you who care to attend.

On an additional fortuitous note, the entrepreneurial **Stan Kaplan** sent us a shout-out. After bemoaning the fact that he had recently endured South Florida's hottest month on record, i.e., July 2017 (not to worry, climate change is just "fake news"), Stan noted that "in addition to founding REX Technology Partners last July, I recently founded REX Fine Art (REX was one of my two dogs that passed away last year) to promote, manage and represent nine living, and one deceased, artists. Technology and art give me my daily professional 'yin and yang' — and I'm enjoying both roles immensely."

Very cool! (Despite the weather.)

Stan, you just need to move to Colorado and then everything will be perfect!

Let's keep those notes coming in!

1983

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Roy Pomerantz
Babyking/Petking
182-20 Liberty Ave.
Jamaica, NY 11412
bkroy@msn.com

My wife, Debbie, and I hosted a Summer Send-off event at our apartment for 30 entering CC/SEAS students, 30 parents and 30 alumni. Nicole Rodriguez '21 sent us the following email after the event:

"I wanted to thank you for opening your home last night and welcoming myself and my fellow Columbia classmates. I enjoyed hearing stories of your time at Columbia and I could really see how much of an impression your time at Columbia had on you. Though you did not know any of us, it was clear that just by attending Columbia, there is now a bond between all of us. Although initially nervous to go to Columbia and not be able to feel at home, hearing your own memories makes me look forward to starting my time there and making my own. Again, thank you so much. I hope to keep in touch and see you around campus in the future!"

Ed Joyce and his wife, Linda Gerstel BC'83, also hosted an event to help Columbia students and alumni connect, engage and network during the summer break. Ed and Linda were recently honored by the Heschel School for their exceptional dedication and service. Daughter Kayla attends Washington University in St. Louis and daughter Sarah '19 is at the College.

David Garrow's book *Rising Star: The Making of Barack Obama* has a chapter on President **Barack Obama**'s Columbia experience. As a student at Occidental College, Obama wanted a bigger school. He felt he would be more able to fulfill his potential attending Columbia in NYC. He also would have more access to a black cultural experience. Garrow notes, "Obama realized the beer drinking, pot smoking and cocaine snorting that Oxy offered him and had cemented his reputa-



Roy Pomerantz '83 hosted a Summer Send-off for incoming students, their parents and alumni. In attendance, left to right: Adrian Eng SEAS'16, Paul Getzels '85, Al Ng SEAS'82, Kathy Schneider '88, Lilian Hsn, Pomerantz, Jonathan Hirschfeld '21, Pomerantz's wife, Deborah Gahr, and Susan Hirschfeld.

NEWS

Send in Your News

Share what's happening in your life with classmates. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct,** or send news to the address at the top of your column.

tion as a 'hard-core party animal' to some friends, was incompatible with any self-transformation into a more serious student and person." According to the book, Columbia only received 450 transfer applications that spring and accepted 67 students. Garrow continues: "Columbia admissions officials were unhappy about the quality of those applicants as well as the quantity. Dean Arnold Collery believed they had not attracted stronger applicants because 'we're not housing them.'"

According to *Rising Star*, those accepted had GPAs of about 3.0 and combined SAT scores of 1100. Obama's memoir mentions he spent his first night in Manhattan "curled up in an alley way." Columbia required transfer students to take all of the Core classes. Tuition was $3,350 per semester. Garrow references *Spectator* headlines ("Alienation Is Common for Minority Students," "Students Label CU Life Depressing") and other articles about the crime and poverty surrounding the school as well as the University bureaucracy. Obama occasionally played pickup basketball at Dodge. In *CCT*'s January 2005 story on Obama, he referred to his time at Columbia as "an intense period of study … I spent a lot of time in the library. I didn't socialize that much. I was like a monk."

Obama majored in political science. According to a *New York Times* article from 2007, he took a course with Michael L. Baron (received an A on the senior paper) where other students described him as one of the top one or two students in the class. He fulfilled part of his science requirement by taking "Physics for Poets" with Gerald Feinberg. It was one of his favorite classes. He also took classes with Edward Said, Len Davis, Maurice Obstfeld and Andrew Walder. Charles Hamilton "didn't know him at all" — nor could any senior political faculty members identify him (other than Baron). Obama gave his papers to "an elderly woman with a harelip and hoarse voice for typing." Yes, Miss Dee. Obama did not participate in Danny Armstrong's South African divestment rally and "few of Columbia and Barnard's black undergraduates from 1981–83 have any recollection of Barack Obama."

Gerrard Bushell said he "would see him periodically" and "remember him by face."

Kenny Chin: "My wife, Lisa, and I are well. Nick now works at GE Digital and Austin is a junior at Syracuse. We saw *Barry* on Netflix a few months ago. It was a good movie. Nice depiction of NYC in the early 1980s — a real hellhole. We all survived and thrived."

Eric Epstein reports that his daughter, Esme, attends Occidental College in Eagle Rock, Los Angeles.

Seth Farber's daughter, Anna, graduated from Hunter H.S. and attends Oberlin College.

Paul Lerner: "I was recently contacted by a Columbia GS student, Ben Appel, who is doing research work in LGBT history. He had come across a pro-gay rights op-ed I wrote for *Spectator* in October 1982, 'Openness is the Only Way to Combat Bigotry.' Ben interviewed me over the phone and also interviewed other gay Columbia alumni of different ages. He wrote a very thoughtful article, 'Generation of AIDS,' which was published in the April 18 issue of *Spectator*. It was really interesting to read his perspective on how the lives of different generations of Columbia students have been impacted by homophobia, HIV/AIDS and increasing acceptance. And it was gratifying to see all of the progress that we have made over the course of those generations. His article is online: bit.ly/2xszdl2."

Eddy Friedfeld taught "The History of Comedy" at NYU Tisch School of the Arts this summer.

Jon Ross: "MicroAid has started another project in Nepal. We're doing a home repair for another earthquake-survivor family in the Kathmandu Valley town of Bhaktapur." [Editor's note: See profile, Spring 2013.]

Steve Coleman: "My daughter Sarah '15 roped me into a cancer fundraiser on August 5 and 6, in Ohio, no less. I completed the 180-mile, two-day ride with her (and a fairly large team of real bikers). The program is called Pelotonia, and this year it had more than 8,000 riders and 3,000 volunteers. Pelotonia raised more than $16 million for cancer research. The ride has private sponsors, so 100 percent of the donations go to research. Check out my page: pelotonia.org/stevecoleman. I did receive a donation from Mr. Pomerantz and one in the name of Professor Selig."

Kevin Chapman is recuperating from a torn labrum and fractured shoulder socket, incurred during a kayaking accident while vacationing in Bermuda.

Kevin, we all wish you a speedy recovery!

Doug Novins sent an email promising an update soon.

Doug, look forward to hearing from you!

Michael Schmidtberger '82 has been named chair of the Sidley & Austin Executive Committee. Mike has been with the firm for 27 years and the managing partner of the New York office for the past five years.

George Wilson: "Hope to see you soon for reunion planning calls."

George, thanks for your dedication! Our 35th reunion is fast approaching. Anyone interested in joining the Reunion Committee, please contact me!

1984

Dennis Klainberg
Berklay Cargo Worldwide
14 Bond St., Ste 233
Great Neck, NY 11021
dennis@berklay.com

Class Day 2017 was another *roaring* success (pun DEFINITELY intended) Holding the '84 banner high was yours truly, along with **Fred Fisher, David Kung** DM'89 and **Richard Lin,** three proud parents of Columbia graduates that day.

Fred is a vascular surgeon at the Orlando VA Hospital and a professor at the University of Central Florida Medical School. His daughter, Rebecca Claire Fisher '17, will be an analyst for the law firm Kobre & Kim in Washington, D.C.

David is a plastic surgeon at Johns Hopkins, and president of Kung Plastic Surgery. His son, Justin Kung '17, was a two-sport intramural champion at Columbia this year in basketball and volleyball. He was also captain of the table tennis team. He will be a one-year post-baccalaureate fellow at the National Institutes of Health this year prior to entering medical school in 2018. David says, "I am in Bethesda, Md., in an active plastic and reconstructive surgery practice. It was very nice getting caught up with Columbia College classmates and their families, especially **Richard Lin,** whom I haven't seen in decades. It was also a treat for my wife, Bonnie DM'89, to walk with her class for the first time! Also, kudos to my niece Amber Sun '17, who also graduated that day."

Richard is a physician scientist at Stony Brook University. He specializes in taking care of patients with, and doing laboratory research on, pancreatic cancer. His son, Winston Lin '17, will work for the Federal Reserve in Washington, D.C.

Condolences to my dear friend **Ben Pushner** on the passing of his beloved mother, Gertrude P. Pushner LS'62, a graduate of the School of Library Science, and the best damn baker of rugelach this side of I-95! It was always a joy for the Marching Band to visit Ben's home in Mystic, Conn., to and from various trips to Ivy basketball games, and I am personally saddened by the loss of this great lady.

On a happier note, congratulations to Ben and his family on the matriculation of his daughter Jenny to Middlebury College.

Also, with thanks to Ben, I've learned that **Carr D'Angelo** was mentioned by the Adam Sandler character "Sandy Wexler" in the Netflix special based on Sandler's real-life agent, Sandy Wernick. If you recall, Carr was a Hollywood producer, along with Sandler, of two films featuring Rob Schneider (*The Hot Chick* and *The Animal*). Carr left Hollywood for the Valley, where he spearheads Earth-2 Comics. (If you missed it, check out *CCT*'s profile of Carr, which is online: bit.ly/2vtUn2u.)

1985

Jon White
16 South Ct.
Port Washington, NY 11050
jw@whitecoffee.com

It took more than 10 years, so I guess I shouldn't be too upset; more than 50 columns, so many world events come and gone. But that's the last time I reached out and didn't get any updates from anyone. I will (I hope) take this to mean that everyone is well and busy and had nothing significant to report.

It also means I have ample license to give my own extended update, which I haven't done in a long time anyway. So while I look forward to receiving your updates for the Winter 2017–18 issue, the timing

works well for me to catch you up with what's going on in my life.

After I finished law school at Columbia and practiced for several years in New York City, I decided to join my family coffee business. This past August marked 27 years of showing up every day and trying to learn a little bit more and keeping pace with the ever-changing world we live in. We are fortunate in that our business has grown and that we are now selling products across the country to many prominent national foodservice and retail customers. In order to do this, we must continually "raise our game" and innovate so that we can stay competitive. It's not easy, but then again, no business is today.

My three boys are 25, 21 and 19. In a blink of an eye. My oldest is Isaac '14. For many of you who have shared this experience of having a "P" in your Columbia moniker, you know how special it is to revisit Columbia a generation later through your children and see what has changed (and in some cases, what hasn't). After, for all intents and purposes, majoring in *Spectator* (officially majoring in comp sci), Isaac worked hard to gain some wonderful work experiences and was fortunate to earn a job offer on the digital side of *The New York Times*. He continues to work there after three years on a variety of projects that improve the user's experience with the endless flow of news.

My middle son, Noah, is in his senior year at Duke. His college experiences have included semesters in Patagonia and New Zealand, summertime paid internships in Sausalito and Asheville, and a trip to the NCAA Final Four — after sleeping outside for six weeks to secure tickets to the Duke/N.C. game (they have a pretty decent and popular basketball team there). He has focused his academics on environmental studies and is seriously considering a stint in the Peace Corps after graduation.

My youngest son, Josh, is in his second year at the University of Miami. He inherited my sports passion and would like to turn it into a career — he is majoring in communications/sports marketing and works on the radio/TV stations. In his first year, he broadcast more than 40 baseball, basketball, football and volleyball games live and got to travel all over the eastern half of the United States. He truly enjoyed it and is rapidly growing his repertoire and ability.

Allison BC'86, my wife of 29 years, has continued to play an active role in community advocacy in a variety of ways. Most recently, she worked part-time for the Parent Leadership Institute, a community-based advocacy assistance program to assist parents advocating for educational projects in their local Long Island community. She has also been active in educational advocacy (including the "opt-out movement" and data privacy), as well as in assisting several local candidates running for New York State legislature seats.

And to complete the household, we have two Portuguese Water Dogs, Sophie (10) and Casey (7 months). We have lived in Port Washington, N.Y. (on the North Shore of Long Island), for 19 years and have both done a lot of community volunteer work (Allison most recently on the local Board of Elections, me with raising money for our synagogue's capital campaign). We have been very fortunate and blessed.

Now that I got that out of the way, I look forward to your updates for the next *CCT*! I hope to see you at Columbia events in the fall. And reunion is less than three years away …

1986

Everett Weinberger
50 W. 70th St., Apt. 3B
New York, NY 10023
everett6@gmail.com

Warwick Daw reports on a great trip. "In June, I went to Tanzania to visit my daughter, Marguerite '16. She has been there for a year as a Peace Corps volunteer, teaching secondary school physics as part of the Let Girls Learn initiative. What an amazing trip it was! Marguerite had just gotten electricity to her house on the school grounds about a month before the visit, and I don't think anyone in the village has running water. One concern there is that fetching water from the local river is a chore placed solely on the girls, and greater importance is placed on this task than on the girls' academic work.

"It was a term break, so we were able to travel all over Tanzania. In addition to visiting Marguerite's site in the Southern Highlands, we saw a waterfall and coffee farm on Kilimanjaro, went sailing and coral reef diving in a dhow in Zanzibar and saw lions, hyenas, giraffes and many other animals in the wild. This trip was my first to Africa and I was left wanting to go back and see more of Tanzania."

After an anxious application year, **Adam Cohen** is pleased that his son, Josiah '21, has started at Columbia. Adam is also looking forward to the publication of his book, *Signs and Wonders: 100 Haggadah Masterpieces*, the first art-historical overview of the rich history of the illustrated haggadah from the Middle Ages to the present.

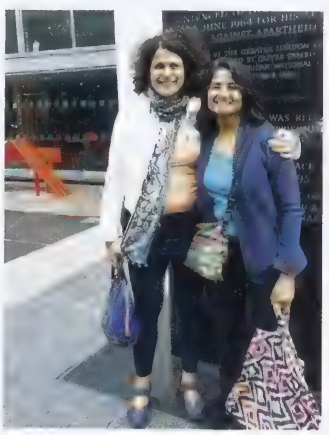
1987

Sarah A. Kass
PO Box 300808
Brooklyn, NY 11230
SarahAnn29uk@gmail.com

Happy 30th reunion to all of us! Let the reflections begin!

From **Rebecca Turner:** "A fun reunion surprise was chatting with fellow Los Angeleno **Greg Gonzalez**, whom I didn't know well during my time at Columbia. It turns out he has been a history teacher at my old high school for more than 20 years, and astonished me by taking a picture of us and texting it to my beloved high school history teacher, who is still there and a colleague of his. I await word on her reaction!"

From **Bruce Furukawa:** "My favorite moment at reunion was at the dinner on Saturday, sitting at a table with people I have not seen in 30 years from Carman 11. It brought back so many memories of us sitting at the end of the hallway watching MTV during breaks and betting which one of the 20 videos we would see next. I also sat next to others whom I have seen more recently and just adore, like **Gerri Gold, Greg Gonzalez, Jung Youn** and **Esther Chung.**



Farah Chandu '87 (right) connected with Cathy Webster '87 in London while Chandu was visiting family.



Bruce Furukawa '87 (right) met up with John Sun '87 in London, where Furukawa says they "had a great time in Kensington and SoHo."

From **Cathy Webster:** "Where to start? **Dave Perlman** and company hosted a terrific Thursday reception at Essex with great conversation and a McBain RC reunion (**Gerri Gold, Tommy Johnston** and me) and brief sightings of some wonderful classmates. Singing the old school songs with Glee Clubbers, including **Lee Ilan**, and **Farah Chandu** and her husband, Paul Carbone SEAS'86, was amazing. I enjoyed a fine meal with **Dick Dawson** and **Katie Dawson** (née Tkatch) afterward. And I joined the 11 Carman kids, too! I loved learning that the track team belted out show tunes on the bus back in the day … And the helpful reunion staff located my band sweater, which I had left at the dinner."

From **Annemarie Coffman Lellouch:** "Reconnected with classmates who are doing all sorts of fabulous things — **Cathy Webster, Laura Raquel Zander, Divya Singh** and **Lee Ilan** (to name but a few). Class dinner with Carman 11s, the Low Steps after the class dinner with the columns lit up in blue (super classy), sneaking into Havemeyer to find the 309 lecture hall exactly as it always was, Richard Axel '67's amazing keynote; seeing that The Hungarian Pastry shop is more or less the same and breakfast at Tom's with **Esther Chung** and **Jung Youn.**

"See you all in five years!"

From **Richard Simonds:** "Reunion was great, got to see a lot of old friends — the highlight was definitely the Saturday dinner. Another highlight was a fabulous lecture I heard on global warming by Professor Jerry McManus '89, GSAS'97 of the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Columbia, which led to email exchanges and my reading of several books on the subject that he recommended. Columbia has a terrific faculty and the University is on the cutting edge of research in a number of important areas that have an impact on our lives; we should be proud of alma mater!"

But the reunioning continued long after the weekend festivities concluded. **Paul Verna** writes, "Barely six weeks after we saw each other at our 30th reunion, **Jon Nelson** and I spent an evening together in the Portland, Maine, area. He and his family took their annual vacation in the Belgrade Lakes region, and on the way, they stopped in the Portland area, not far from my hometown of Kennebunk. We posed for pictures in front of the famous Portland Head Light in Cape Elizabeth. We spent some quality time at reunion with other CC'87 friends, including **Daniele Baliani, Stavros Zomopoulos, Jose Calvo, Jennifer Berry, Rina Elizabeth Teran, Nancy Rabinowitz Friedman** and **Jennifer Insogna.** It was great (re) connecting with so many fine folks!"

And in London, **Farah Chandu** met up with **Cathy Webster** while Farah was visiting family. They posed for pictures near the statue of Nelson Mandela, recalling our divestment days. Farah wrote, "It's becoming a Columbia-London tradition for me — I narrowly missed seeing **Maria Resende** this time, but had dinner with **Judy Kim** here a couple of years back.

In more CC'87 London fun, **Bruce Furukawa** met up with **John Sun.** Bruce says, "We had a great time in Kensington and SoHo. I posted some photos. I also went out to Cambridge to drop off my daughter at a program for high school students, where **Greg Gonzalez** is one of the supervisors."

Early tallies show that our reunion attendance was quite impressive, with 77 attending the Essex reception on Thursday, 104 at the Friday evening reception at the Ascent Lounge and 136 at the Saturday class reception and dinner — so I know there are a lot more stories! Keep 'em coming!

1988

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Eric Fusfield
1945 South George Mason Dr.
Arlington, VA 22204
ericfusfield@bigfoot.com

Michael Argenziano PS'92 and his wife, **Maria Rodino,** live in Closter, N.J., with their six children. "Maria practices endocrinology in Westwood, N.J., and I'm chief of adult cardiac surgery at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center," Michael wrote. "Our two oldest children are Michael '18 and Anthony '20; Michael is applying to medical school. Maria is also a marathon runner, has completed the last three NYC Marathons and is planning to run NYC again this year. We fondly remember our days at Columbia and credit Columbia for countless valuable experiences and opportunities!"

A quick note from **Stu Kaplan** PS'92: "After running a child and adolescent hospital for children with eating disorders, I followed my midlife crisis and moved to Amsterdam for an M.B.A. program, pursuing global nonprofit administration."

Jeremy Dickstein wrote, "In the past few months I have both continued my wealth management/investment advisory career and also expanded into small business consulting. In the spring I was named to run the private wealth management division of Spartan Capital Securities, an independent broker-dealer affiliated with RBC. In addition, I was recruited to Aflac to assist with one of its large institutional clients. Last but not least, I was recently hired as a regional sales director for the renowned and award-winning business consultant/broker boutique firm Lisiten Associates. As Yogi Berra used to say, 'If you see a fork in the road, take it.'"

Steve Cohen LAW'92, BUS'92 hasn't strayed far from Morningside Heights. "I live on the Upper West Side with my wife, Sarah Jones, and our terrific kids, Nina (9) and Leo (7), as well as Friday Jones, our cherished 11-year-old dog. I am a partner at Wachtell Lipton and have been an M&A lawyer working continually (as we do at Wachtell Lipton) since graduating from the Law School. Sarah and I are both practicing lawyers, so between the kids, the job and the occasional tickets to Carnegie Hall, our favorite pastime is trying to get sufficient sleep.

"In June we went to Venice to celebrate my 50th birthday, a significant milestone in aging; I am pleased to report that I survived it, but it's still a pig in a python. On the topic of aging and shifts in perspective, in connection with turning 50, I was having a conversation with my friend about his birthday when my 7-year-old son, listening, interrupted to ask him, 'Wait — oh my god — are you from the 19s?,' referring to our origin in the 20th century. When my friend confirmed it, Leo said, 'Wow, my dad is from the 19s also.'"

Silicon Valley venture capitalist **Ben Horowitz** and his father, David '59, were the subjects of an interesting *New York Times* article about high-tech and politics. "Ben Horowitz is helping define the modern tech age," the *Times* wrote. "His father shaped the '60s radical left — before taking a hard right turn. Family chats get interesting."

Keep the updates coming! I look forward to hearing from you.

1989

Emily Miles Terry
45 Clarence St.
Brookline, MA 02446
emilymilesterry@me.com

Earlier this year **Kaivan Shakib** joined Morgan Stanley, where he heads up financial technology investment banking. Kaivan writes, "I've already connected with fellow Kappa Delta Rho fraternity member **Robert Rooney** (CEO Morgan Stanley Europe), who is in even better shape than he was in college, and with **John Alex,** who is in wealth management."

Kaivan also spends time as a board member for Summer on the Hill, a not-for-profit that helps kids from the Bronx and Manhattan get into independent parochial schools.

I touched base with **Daniele Campbell,** who writes, "We are having a great summer — as I write this, just dropped my son at camp, and we are looking forward to a nice time with my daughter (8)."

Daniele worked at Marvel for three years; she says, "Working at Marvel was tons of fun. I'm continuing to leverage my direct-to-consumer marketing background by consulting on subscriber acquisition for Univision on its OTT (over-the-top)/TV everywhere app Univision Now. I've been there since March and it's been a lot of fun."

Daniele and her family live in the Murray Hill area of NYC.

A quick congratulations to **Michael Behringer,** who has taken on the role of Columbia College Alumni Association president. [Editor's note: See "Message from the CCAA President."] Also congratulations to **Chris Della Pietra,** who is on the executive board of the CCAA as secretary and chairs our Reunion Commitee and Homecoming committees. Please get in touch with them to get involved.

1990

Rachel Cowan Jacobs
youngrache@hotmail.com

Making his 1990 Class Notes debut is **Greg Krasovsky,** who sends greetings from Moscow: "I took a year and a half of academic leave from Columbia to be a City of Philadelphia police officer and graduated with the Class of 1991. While attending Penn's Law School I went to Moscow (my city of birth) to intern with Russia's Supreme Court and do summer work at the Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom law firm. One summer turned into 11 years in Moscow, 1993–2004. I was an investment banker, an entrepreneur (real estate, construction, IT, biotechnology), an auditor and a lawyer. I finished Russian law school in 1998 at People's Friendship University of Russia — a university established in the 1960s to teach foreigners and introduce them to the wonders of socialism and Soviet

communism. In 2004 we came back to my United States hometown, Philadelphia, and lived there until moving to Fairfax, Va., during the 2008 presidential campaign.

"I've been living in Moscow and practicing law after spending summer 2014 in war-torn eastern Ukraine's Lugansk. I often make appearances on Russian television as an American lawyer and political scientist — you can see links to those videos on my Russian law practice Facebook page (fb.com/krasovsky112). It's been a trip watching and commenting on the 2016 U.S. presidential elections, the Trump administration's alleged ties to Russia and those phantom Russian hackers. Current geopolitics and U.S. relations with Russia is a mix of *House of Cards* and *Game of Thrones*. All I can say is, don't believe the hype and false news!

Greg Krasovsky '90 sends greetings from Moscow: "Current geopolitics and U.S. relations with Russia is a mix of House of Cards *and* Game of Thrones."

"I've been married to Tatiana since 1998 and we have four children: Maya (17), Michael (15), Sarah (12) and Bella (1). Maya will be applying to colleges this fall and Columbia is, of course, at the top of my list. I've seen or talked to a number of our CC'90 classmates over the last five years. **Patricia Sullivan,** who worked for the Manhattan DA after Fordham Law and then went on to a successful career as a money laundering compliance specialist at major banks, including a stint in Hong Kong. She's married with three children. **Matthew Brooks,** who came to Moscow in 1995 and stayed for a year working at our real estate and construction company. Matt's practicing law and happily married to his high school sweetheart with three children in a suburb of Niagara Falls, where I visited him with my children in 2013 on the way back from a crazy Canadian road trip. Matt swapped dirt bikes for a Harley Davidson. **Dan Max,** who also finished Fordham Law and specializes in U.S. government contractor M&A in the greater Washington, D.C., area. If you're interested in visiting Russia or just need friendly advice on this place, then please reach out to me."

This in from **Isaac-Daniel Astrachan:** "Now in my 19th year at Steven B. Jacobs Group (time flies!), I'm working on several projects, including a 45-story residential tower in Long Island City, a five-star hotel in Tribeca, a citizenM hotel on the Lower East Side (the tallest modular hotel in North America) and our own apartment renovation. My wife, Meghan, was on sabbatical this year and was scheduled to go back to work in September, just in time to teach Aidhan, who will be starting 9th grade. Aidhan continues to play soccer at Downtown United Soccer Club. His team ended the season ranked in the top 100 nationally and was to travel to Barcelona and Madrid this August to train, compete, explore and have fun."

In further Carman 8 news (hey, everyone else who didn't live on my floor, if you write to me, I'll publish you), I made a delightful trip to Forest Hills, N.Y., in May to celebrate the bat mitzvah of Maya Buchman, daughter of **Laura Marks** and her husband, Jeremy Buchman '91. Columbians in attendance included **Liz Poston** (née Lubow), **Chien-Li Chung** SEAS'91, my brother-in-law Ben Jacobs '93, **Sunhee Lee,** Mark Koppel '63 and Alan Greengrass '63, BUS'98. Jeremy was on sabbatical in the spring from his political science professorship at Long Island University/C.W. Post Campus. For almost a decade, Laura has been the head of the Louis and Nancy Hatch Dupree Foundation, which supports the Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University, an archive and research center in Kabul. In her spare time, she teaches U.S. citizenship classes at Women for Afghan Women in Queens and co-chairs the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance of New York and New Jersey. As many of us marvel at how old our children are getting and take pride in their many milestones, it's worth mentioning that Liz works at AARP (no jokes please, as we hit the mid-century mark).

Submit Your Photo

CCT welcomes photos that feature at least two College alumni. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct.

1991

Margie Kim
margiekimkim@hotmail.com

No news this time, CC'91. So let's send in lots for the Winter 2017–18 issue! Did you do anything exciting during the summer or fall? Any big plans for 2018? Let's hear it!

1992

Olivier Knox
olivier.knox@gmail.com

Greetings, everyone! I bugged a number of you at our fantastic reunion for updates — I'm about ready to start writing them for you ("**J. Schwartz** emailed to say he runs a nudist colony where he uses giant papier-mâché puppets to turn the complete works of Berthold Brecht into fun for the whole family!"). Thankfully, I did get a couple of nice notes. As always, please send me your life updates at olivier.knox@gmail.com.

Jennifer Fredricks is dean of academic departments and programs and professor of psychology at Union College in Schenectady, N.Y. She's in charge of faculty development, overseeing faculty hiring, supporting faculty research and teaching, course staffing, faculty mentorship programs, overseeing external department reviews, administrating internal research grants and fellowships, and overseeing a $100 million science and engineering building renovation. "I would love to connect with other alumni living in the Capital region," she writes.

I'm trying to meet up with **Jonathan Henick** SIPA'93 — always a little embarrassing to find out via a third party that you live in the same city as a classmate. In the meantime, Jonathan writes that he's been in the Foreign Service for nearly 24 years. He and his wife, Dominique, and their kids, Oskar and Carmen, moved back to D.C. from Ankara last year. "I'm the acting coordinator (or assistant secretary) for International Information Programs, leading a team of talented and creative writers, editors, videographers, graphic designers, data analysts and web and social media experts working to support U.S. public diplomacy around the world," Jonathan writes.

That reminds me: CC'92ers, if you're in D.C., drop me a note.

That's it for now! Please send me your updates!

1993

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Betsy Gomperz
betsy.gomperz@gmail.com

News from **Richard Carrick:** "In 2015–16, I received a Guggenheim Fellowship in Musical Composition and my wife, Nomi Levy-Carrick '92, took a position working with the Ministry of Health of Rwanda for a year. So we left NYC with the kids to live in Kigali. The adventures were totally amazing — working with Rwandans and other international expats, going on 'local' safaris and (for me!) being asked by the Rwandan government to pen a new arrangement of its national anthem for the military band! In September 2016 we moved back to the East Coast to continue our music and mind work in a new city: I started as chair of composition at Berklee College of Music in Boston,

and Nomi joined the department of psychiatry at Brigham and Women's Hospital/Harvard Medical School. I still travel to NYC a lot for music, performing most recently with my ensemble Either/Or at Columbia's Miller Theatre and recently performed at the Library of Congress. Roar, lion, roar!"

It's not too early to start thinking about our 25th reunion! Plan to return to Morningside Heights next summer and reconnect with old friends!

Send in your notes for the Winter 2017–18 issue. Your classmates want to hear from you!

1994

Leyla Kokmen
lak6@columbia.edu

Anna Ivey writes from her home base of Los Angeles, where she's working at the software company she co-founded. "We make a digital tool called inli.ne that helps students fill out their online college applications with the benefit of expert advice, kind of like what TurboTax does for tax returns," Anna writes. "I see other Columbia grads regularly at alumni events in Southern California — it's a nice group out here."

News reports from further up the coast say that **Ocean MacAdams** has been named president of online publisher Thrillist, which produces food, travel and lifestyle programming geared toward young men. Under the leadership of Ocean, who will split his time between the San Francisco and New York offices, Thrillist will continue to enhance its focus on video production.

In other career transitions, **Amit Bose** SIPA'95 writes from Washington, D.C., that after seven-plus years in different roles in President Barack Obama '83's administration, he ended his tenure there in January as deputy administrator at the Federal Railroad Administration. "Serving in the administration was an honor that I will always remember," Amit writes, "and I am fortunate to have been a member of the team that advanced countless transportation projects, including the Northeast Corridor and the California high-speed rail project, and safety across the country."

Amit writes that he is excited about his new role at HNTB, an infrastructure firm, as its Mid-Atlantic transit and rail lead.

Also writing from D.C. is **Deena Berkowitz** (née Durst), who is married to Benjamin Berkowitz SEAS'94. Deena writes that Benjamin is a partner and intellectual property lawyer at Foley & Lardner and has been nationally recognized for his work in patent prosecution, including chemical, biochemical and mechanical patents. "He's grateful for both the solid engineering background he received at Columbia and for meeting his wife in biochemistry class," Deena writes. "We live in the Washington, D.C., area, where I'm an assistant professor of pediatrics and emergency medicine at Children's National Medical Center. We have five children, ranging from second grade to college students."

And finally, a happy coincidence in June allowed me to catch up with **Imara Jones**, as we by chance crossed paths at Chicago O'Hare International Airport. Imara had just flown in from New York for the People's Summit, where he hosted a number of interviews on behalf of Free Speech Television, and I was leaving for a business trip in Pittsburgh to oversee a video at Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield. Who knew that one of the world's top-10 busiest airports would produce such an unexpected reunion?

That's it for this time. Thanks to everyone who wrote in — please keep the news coming to lak6@columbia.edu!

1995

Janet Lorin
jrf10@columbia.edu

Let me say a big thank you to my freshman year *Spectator* compatriots **Rolando Pujol** and **Tova Mirvis** SOA'98 for answering my call for an update. I remember we were called "beat chiefs" back then, when the office was on the second floor on Amsterdam, maybe around West 115th Street.

Spec colleagues, please send in an update!

Rolando is director of digital and social strategy at WPIX-TV Channel 11 in New York. "I'm fortunate to say I have a dream job for someone who grew up watching lots of local New York TV," he writes. "In almost five years, we've built out a strong and competitive digital and social news presence in New York. I'm proud of our innovations too — we're leading in over-the-top content, Amazon Alexa, Facebook Live and other areas." Rolando also runs the station's archives and launched a popular Facebook page, WPIX Archives. Last year, he found a historic film that was long considered lost — the original version of the WPIX Yule Log, TV's first televised fireplace. The station restored and re-aired the special last Christmas, in time for its 50th anniversary. "My discovery led to significant, national press coverage, which was terrific for the station," he writes.

"I'm also running Tribune Media's Antenna TV social channels, which is a perfect fit for a TV nostalgia nut like me."

Before working for Channel 11, Rolando had an on-air hosting gig for WNBC's digital channel, New York Nonstop. The show, *Hidden City*, was about New York history and neighborhoods. He also worked for years in newspapers, including *Newsday*, *The New York Daily News* and *amNewYork*, where he was managing editor.

Our news editors at the time were Eric Roston '93, GSAS'98 and Elena Cabral '93, JRN'99, both of whom I am still in touch with after more than 25 years. Rolando remembers a particular moment with Eric in 1992. "I love telling the story that the now-quite famous Eric Garcetti '92, SIPA'93, the mayor of Los Angeles, gave me one of my biggest scoops; he pulled me aside after one of those dreadfully dull student council meetings to tell me Mike Sovern '53, LAW'55 was stepping down," Rolando writes. "And I remember running back to Eric and getting it in the paper. Good times."

Elena (a former *CCT* class correspondent) teaches at the Journalism School, where she also runs the part-time master's of science program. After graduating from the program, Elena went on to work for *Newsday*, *The Miami Herald* and then *Scholastic News*. She helped guide students through the tumultuous election season and is now teaching them to ask the hard questions in the aftermath. She has been married to David Gonzalez (I was at that wedding in San Antonio!), a reporter and Lens Blog editor at *The New York Times*, for 17 years and they have two children, Paloma (9) and Sebastian (14).

I see Eric all the time at Bloomberg, where he has worked since 2011 covering climate change and energy issues. He lives in Montclair, N.J., with his wife, Karen Yourish JRN'98, and their daughter. His work (and that of many of our colleagues) can be found at the dedicated news website climatechanged.com. He's been joking for several years about writing a thriller (working title, *The Delta Prophecy*), and this year has taken it on as a late-night hobby. He hopes to finish before he receives his first Social Security check in 2033.

Tova has a book coming out in September, a memoir, *The Book of Separation*, about leaving the Orthodox Jewish world in which she was raised. "I've been busy with that and with my three kids — one of whom recently graduated from high school, which feels hard to believe," she writes. Tova lives in Newton, Mass., just outside of Boston, where she's lived for a dozen years. Her other kids are 9 and 14.

1996

Ana S. Salper
ana.salper@nyumc.org

My fellow Class of 1996ers, where are you? For the first time in years, I have no news to report! I want to hear from you — and am trying to avoid the mass email blast I will inevitably have to send to you all — so please send in notes and let me know what you are up to!

For now, I leave you with this:

"In the middle of difficulty, lies opportunity." — Albert Einstein

1997

Sarah Katz
srk12@columbia.edu

It was amazing to see so many of you at our 20th reunion in June! We had an incredible turnout, and it was so wonderful to see all of your smiling faces. Kudos to reunion chair **Raji Kalra** and the entire Reunion Committee for organizing an incredible long weekend of events.

Unfortunately for me, it all went by in a blur and I didn't take

Alumni Sons and Daughters

Sixty-five members of the Columbia College Class of 2021 and four members of the Columbia Engineering Class of 2021 are sons or daughters of College alumni. This list is alphabetical by the parent(s)' last name.

STUDENT	PARENT
Theodore Ajluni *Bloomfield Hills, Mich.*	Roger Ajluni '89
Isabel Alland *Bernardsville, N.J.*	David Alland '80
Chad Arle *Concord, Mass.*	Jeffrey Arle '86
Noah Avigan *Sharon, Mass.*	David Avigan '85
Jordan Barry *Short Hills, N.J.*	Michael Barry '89
Mira Soni *Arlington, Va.*	Jeffrey Bartos '87
Matthew Zinman Samantha Zinman *Harrison, N.Y.*	Lauren Bauer-Zinman '90
Sara Bernstein *New Rochelle, N.Y.*	Joseph Bernstein '87
Alexander Brett *Greenwich, Conn.*	James Brett '84 and Patricia Brett '87
Cameren Carter *Duluth, Ga.*	Hector Carter '91
Robin Cheng *Hong Kong*	Ali Cheng '95
Julian Christensen *Menlo Park, Calif.*	Jens Christensen '84
Josiah Cohen *Toronto*	Adam Cohen '86
Jonathon Cohen Jordan Cohen *Newton Center, Mass.*	Judah Cohen '85
Alexandra Cooper *New York City*	Neil Cooper '82
Shimshon Dicker *Merion Station, Pa.*	Adam Dicker '84
Sophia DiIorio *Scotch Plains, N.J.*	Peter DiIorio '86
Carl Dobrovic *Oakton, Va.*	Nino Dobrovic '86
Max Elikan *Silver Spring, Md.*	Jeffrey Elikan '87
Timothy Eng *Warren, N.J.*	Edmond Eng '90
Zachary Miller *Wellesley Hills, Mass.*	Lauren Farber '88 °
Henry Feldman *Waban, Mass.*	Lee Feldman '89
Marco Balestri *New York City*	Rebecca Fine '89
Maeve Flaherty *Norwalk, Conn.*	John Flaherty '84
Matthew Geyman *Livingston, N.J.*	Ella Geyman '89
Jared Goldfischer *Mountain Lakes, N.J.*	Michael Goldfischer '86
Eli Goldin *Venice, Calif.*	Joshua Goldin '82
Kyoko Hirose *San Francisco*	Ryutaro Hirose '85
Isaac Horwitz-Hirsch *Santa Monica, Calif.*	Joshua Hirsch '84
Ari Hirsch *Wynnewood, Pa.*	Marten Hirsch '88
James Hunter *Nashville*	James Hunter Jr. '87 and Dineo Khabele '89
Aaron Jaffe *Old Greenwich, Conn.*	Marc Jaffe '73
Claire Jenkins * *Charlottesville, Va.*	Jeffrey Jenkins '94
Emma Kateman *Beverly Hills*	Jeffrey Kateman '89
Jenna Kerman *New York City*	Mark Kerman '83
Henry Kiem * *London, U.K.*	Theodore Kiem '92 and Elizabeth Kiem '94
Yaira Kobrin *Bronx, N.Y.*	Jeffrey Kobrin '92 and Michelle Greenberg-Kobrin '96
Charles Noxon *Los Angeles*	Jenji Kohan '91
Alexander Chu *Singapore*	Mary Kuo '92
Caroline Laplaca *Weston, Conn.*	Robert Laplaca '89 and Maria Benedetto-Laplaca '89
Katie Tropp-Levy *Great Neck, N.Y.*	Julie Levy '91
Alexander Maddon *Hartsdale, N.Y.*	Paul Maddon '81
Julian Maldonado *San Antonio*	Javier Maldonado '90
Peter Maroulis *Palo Alto, Calif.*	James Maroulis '88
Julia May *New York City*	Morgan May '67
Asatta Mesa *Miami*	Margarita Mesa '94
Theodore Michaels *Richmond, Mass.*	Basil Michaels '83
Elizabeth Myrus *Providence, R.I.*	Richard Myrus '84
Alexandra Orlinsky * *Baltimore*	Diane Orlinsky '88
Caroline Park *Atherton, Calif.*	Hyun Park '84
Joseph Phelan *Princeton, N.J.*	John Phelan '85
Elisha Pinker *Stamford, Conn.*	Edieal Pinker '89
Matthew Rosenberg * *West Hempstead, N.Y.*	Gary Rosenberg '77
Zoe Metcalfe *Berkeley, Calif.*	Louis Rossetto Jr. '71
James Ryan *Rockville Centre, N.Y.*	Jennifer Ryan '89
Katherine Santamaria *Saint Petersburg, Fla.*	John Santamaria '77

STUDENT	PARENT
Jackson Satow *Chappaqua, N.Y.*	**Michael Satow '88**
Chiara Drake *San Francisco*	**Kevin Siegel '88**
Zoe Sottile *Woodbridge, Conn.*	**Anne-Whitney Sottile '89**
Eva Steinman *Cresskill, N.J.*	**Natasha Steinman '90**
Devon Stuzin *Baltimore*	**Kenneth Stuzin '86**
Katherine Tak *Weston, Mass.*	**Thomas Tak '91 and Huijin Tak '92**
Malcolm Volk *Seattle*	**Andrew Volk '86**
Kathryn Williamson *Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.*	**John Williamson '88**
Alexandra Wolf *Newton Center, Mass.*	**Douglas Wolf '88 and Sherri Wolf '90**
Alexander Yu *New York City*	**Raymond Yu '89**

Eight incoming Columbia College or Columbia Engineering transfer students are sons or daughters of College alumni.

James Bernstein '20 *Haverford, Pa.*	**Joseph Bernstein '84**
Sophia Danzig '20 *New York City*	**Andrew Danzig '82**
Christopher Fryer '19 ** *Hingham, Mass.*	**George Fryer '83**
Eliana Gottdenker '20 *Bethesda, Md.*	**Michael Gottdenker '86**
Danielle Harris '20 *Bronx, N.Y.*	**Asher Harris '82**
David Lee SEAS'19 ** *Somers, N.Y.*	**David Lee '79**
Harry Schiller '20 *Cambridge, Mass.*	**Robert Schiller '73**
Samuel Schwartz '20 *Longmeadow, Mass.*	**Donald Schwartz '78**

* member of the Engineering Class of 2021
** Combined Plan Program (College and Engineering)
o deceased

notes! Here are a few updates from classmates who wrote in. Feel free to send your reunion stories and other updates to me for the Winter 2017–18 issue!

Hannah Trooboff McCollum and her husband, **Brian McCollum SEAS '97,** are fully settled into their lives in Hopewell, N.J., having finished the renovation of Brian's childhood home. They are enjoying raising their daughters, Lena (9) and Caroline (6), there. Caroline's kindergarten classroom was the same as her father's, and more than one of Lena's teachers taught Brian. Hannah started as an associate director of admission at Peddie School this fall, and Brian continues to work at Impax Laboratories as the director of operations at its Middlesex manufacturing plant. All four of them had a great time attending the 20th reunion and the girls fell in love with Columbia's campus. They stayed in the dorms, which was an adventure and brought back lots of memories, too!

within the trenches), he has also worked in 2017 as a PA for *American Ninja Warrior* (NBC) and *NFL: Honors* (FOX) during Super Bowl week in Houston. He writes, "Great seeing everyone at the 20th reunion!"

1998

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834
Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Sandie Angulo Chen
sandie.chen@gmail.com

Happy autumn, Class of 1998! I am sorry to say no one sent in updates this issue. So I'm using this column to remind all of you to save the date for our 20th reunion, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2 Our Reunion Committee is busy planning the events, but there's still room for more volunteers, if you want to become involved. Contact me if you want to help.

John Dean Alfone '97 was a production assistant on Season 14 of The Voice, *a PA for* American Ninja Warrior *and a PA for* NFL: Honors *during Super Bowl week.*

Kerensa Harrell flew up from Florida to attend reunion. She brought her husband, Dr. Manu Sehgal (Penn-GM'01), and their seven-month-old daughter, Amara. Baby Amara happily attended all the reunion events and even made it into the class photo. She was teething, so her favorite activity was quickly snatching the alumni nametags and starting to chew on them before anyone had a chance to react. Kerensa enjoyed sitting next to **Katie Hickes Karpenstein** at the Saturday dinner. Kerensa and Katie met freshman year when both lived in singles on the ninth floor of John Jay Hall. When Katie got married in 2004, she had Kerensa choreograph her wedding dance — a silky tango to the song "A Media Luz" by Julio Iglesias. The two were delighted to catch up after all these years!

John Dean Alfone was a production assistant on Season 14 of *The Voice* this past May. As he tries to climb the Hollywood ladder (from

1999

Adrienne Carter and Jenna Johnson
adieliz@gmail.com
jennajohnson@gmail.com

Hello classmates! We have news from two of our cohort this issue, **Sara Steindel Dauber** and **Alice Weinreb.**

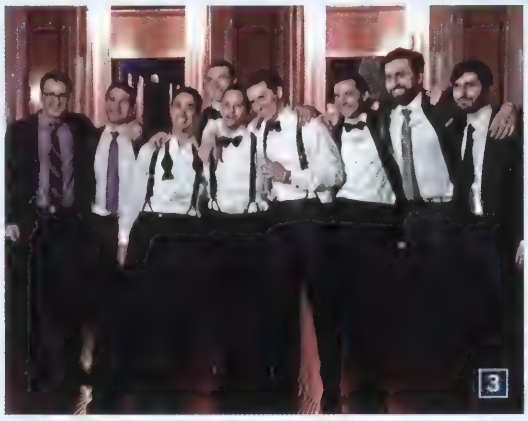
Sara writes of travel kismet with some fellow Columbians. She and her husband, Andrew Dauber '00, recently found themselves in the Galapagos Islands (lucky ducks!) by way of a work conference. They found surprise Lions among the famous fauna of the area — that is, "two

Just Married!

Welcome to the debut of Just Married!, our section for wedding photos. We welcome photos where at least one member of the couple is a College alum. Please submit your high-resolution photo using *CCT*'s photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Congratulations!


1


2


3


4

KENDRA JOY PHOTOGRAPHY


5

PARIS WEDDING STUDIOS


6


7


8

AMY & DAVID RAYCROFT


9

JON MACAPODI

1. Jack Zietman '11 married Ilana Krakowski BC'11 on June 11.

2. Taylor Gray Wlazlo '16 was married July 1 in Houston at Chateau Polonez. Left to right: Akira Baruah SEAS'16, Sonya Li '16, Sarah Berlinger SEAS'16, the bride, Saaket Pradhan '16, Alison Chang '16 and Richin Kabra '16.

3. Marc Williams '06 married Julie Nusbaum on December 31 in Great Neck, N.Y. Left to right: Danny Bessner GS'06, Dave Hudson GS'06, David Kaplowitz GS'07, Brian Wolfson '06, Seth Wainer '06, the groom, David Seidman '06, Asher Mullokandov '06 and Gavriel Mullokandov '07.

4. Maximilian Bulinski '08 married Erin Maskell in late April in Baltimore. Left to right: Jeff Spear '10, Yamini Kumar GSAPP'13, Nikhil Kanekal JRN'10, Adam Hurst SEAS'05, the groom, the bride, Lingxi Kong '08, Kevin Gauvey-Kern '08, Thommen Ollapally '08 and Greg Keilin '09.

5. Lili Lee '05 married Raymond Lau on January 28 on Long Island. Left to right: Soo Young Jeong SEAS'05, Qian Situ SEAS'05, Juneyoung Yi '05, Carol Park GS'05, the bride, the groom, Seulgey Kim '03, Pamela Lee SEAS'05, Jinny Jin '05 and Hea Lyun Lee '05.

6. Raymond de Oliveira '16 was married less than a month after graduation in Annapolis, Md., at the William Paca House and Garden. Columbia alumni in the groom's party were (fourth and fifth on the right) Michael Barth '16 and Christopher Sabaitis '16. The groom is in the center.

7. On May 20, John Davisson '08 and Amanda Erickson '08 married on Long Island, with many Columbia friends alongside them. Back row, left to right: Andrew Martin '08, Owen Hearey '08 and Josh Hirschland '08; middle row, left to right: Megan Greenwell BC'06, Leora Falk BC'07, Erin Durkin '08, Adam Kushner '03 and Jimmy Vielkind-Neun '07; and front row, left to right: the groom, Morgan Sellers '06, Laura Brunts '08, Deborah Beim '08, Daniella Zalcman '09, Lydia DePillis '09, Sara Vogel '09, Simone Sebastian '03 and the bride.

8. Ben Howell '02 married Lacey Whitmire on April 18, 2015, in Watkinsville, Ga. Left to right: Tim Howell '98, Abby Walthausen BC'06, Alex Farrill '03, Veronica Liu BC'02, Tim Bean '04, the bride, the groom, Brian House '02 and Dan Greenwald '02.

9. Chantée Dempsey Morin '09 married Nicholas J. Morin at the Loeb Boathouse Central Park on October 7, 2016. Left to right: Kate Davis, Matthew Morin, Toluwalope Onafowokan '09, David Cooper '09, Kelly Mabolo, Bryan Kotliar, the groom, the bride, Daniel Perrone, Nicole Petrascu, Aubrey Morin and Alexandra Brodman.

other Columbia College graduates were among our international group of scientists and M.D.s: Ron Rosenfeld '68 and Rick Ross '68," who, it turns out, had been lab partners in their own Columbia days. Sara and Andrew live in suburban Cincinnati with their four children, aged 5–10. Sara's working at a "startup called Eccrine Systems, developing wearable medical devices that can measure what's in your sweat."

We're looking forward to seeing this new technology make its way into technology generally available to the rest of us!

Alice Weinreb gives us an exciting new book to pick up this fall! She's an associate professor of history at Loyola University Chicago and she's "very excited to announce that my book, *Modern Hungers: Food and Power in Twentieth-Century Germany*, recently came out. It is a study of the relationship between our modern food system and the military-industrial complex, focusing on Germany's roles in the World Wars and Cold War."

Sounds like something the history majors among us should check out *jetzt sofort*. Book club, anyone?

That's it for this installment, folks. But send us your news to the addresses at the top of this column! We're looking forward to hearing from you.



JUDY ROSS

The Universidad San Francisco de Quito Growth Hormone Conference in San Cristobal, Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, brought together alumni across generations. Left to right: Rick Ross '68, Ron Rosenfeld '68, Andrew Dauber '00 and Sara Steindel Dauber '99.

2000

Prisca Bae
pb134@columbia.edu

Class of 2000, what's the news? I hope everyone is having a great 2017 — great enough to share in *CCT*! Email me at pb134@columbia.edu to tell me how hobbies, work, family, travel and life in general are going. Your classmates want to hear from you!

2001

Jonathan Gordin
jrg53@columbia.edu

Hi all! It had been a while since I heard from **Tamer Makary,** so it was a great pleasure to receive a stateside dispatch from him. He recently relocated with his wife and four children to Haddonfield, N.J. His eldest (Alec) is 6, and his youngest (Sophia) is turning 2 in October, with Sebastian and Isabella in between.

Tamer spent more than four years as CDO of Magrabi Retail (the Middle East's largest optical retail chain) and executive director of the Magrabi Foundation (an NGO focused on tackling needless blindness in Africa). Tamer travels back and forth to the Middle East, Africa and Southeast Asia to support an advisory practice, Ethica Partners, which he started late last year. The group is focused on corporate strategy and capital raising mandates, servicing small and mid-cap companies across the globe.

Tamer recently joined Not Impossible Labs, started up by a close friend, Mick Ebeling (in a COO/CIO capacity), where they work together to incubate and commercialize socially sustainable businesses. He sits on the board of the Africa Eye Foundation (as VP of fundraising), which last October opened the first not-for-profit subspecialty eye hospital in sub-Saharan Africa (based in Yaoundé, Cameroon). Tamer has been very busy!

Richard Luthmann wrote in with a great update: "No summer vacation for me this year, as my election/ballot access law practice has really taken off. I am the law chair for the New York State Reform Party and I spent a good part of July and August securing ballot access for citywide candidates in NYC, including in the races for



SCOTT RUDD

mayor, public advocate and comptroller, and in several City Council races. As the top lawyer in the party, I will have the opportunity to do some New York State 'legal tourism,' as there are ballot access issues in Syracuse and Buffalo that I am working on, as well as appeals to be heard in Albany. I hope my wife, Tammara, and I will be able to get away sometime after November 8 (my birthday and the day after Election Day). Additionally, earlier in the summer I was named one of Brooklyn's 40 Stars Under 40 by the *Brooklyn Reporter*."

Congratulations to **Daniel Schiff** on his wedding to Emmanuel Garcia-Morales on June 9. Daniel is an attorney at the Federal Labor Relations Authority and Emmanuel is a Ph.D. candidate at Johns Hopkins. Daniel and Emmanuel live in Baltimore.

If you've been hiding under a rock, you may have missed **Jonathan Lemire**'s incredible political reporting — he's been everywhere lately. He writes for the Associated Press and it's hard to escape him — in my car, on TV (MSNBC), everywhere. It's amazing to hear his insights and terrific reporting. Brings me back to our *Spec* days.

Congrats, Jon!

Finally, I love to include photos of you in the column. Please share if you have any photos of yourselves with fellow College alums! *CCT*'s only photo guidelines are that all photos must have at least two College alumni in them and the photos must be high resolution. Feel free to send them to me at jrg53@columbia.edu, with caption and photographer information, and I will get it incorporated. You can also use *CCT*'s photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

facebook.com/alumnicc

Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

2002

Sonia Dandona Hirdaramani
soniah57@gmail.com

Helena Andrews-Dyer is a "reporter for *The Washington Post*, covering politics and popular culture. She's interviewed everyone from Tom Hanks, to John Legend, to Cicely Tyson, to Aziz Ansari on red carpets across Washington, D.C. (yes, D.C. has red carpets ... and real celebrities). Helena and her husband, Robert, an IT consultant, welcomed their first child, a daughter named Sally Rose, in April."

Allison Lloyds O'Neill had a baby boy on February 2! Alexander Grant was born at Columbia on West 168th Street and was named for Alexander Hamilton.

Agnia Grigas released her third book, *The New Geopolitics of Natural Gas*.

NYC director **Mike Mellia** was commissioned by *W* magazine to direct a series of infinitely looping videos in a fashion editorial featuring Balenciaga, Céline and more. It was filmed during Frieze New York Art Week.

Garonne Decossard SEAS'02 works on the Global Acceptance and Solutions team at MasterCard. Leveraging her chemical engineering background, Garonne recently turned her hobby for product making into launching a haircare line that cateres to those suffering from treatable alopecia. Her hair oil is well received and is now sold online, at hair salons and in small boutiques in the Tri-State area. She has also partnered with Dr. **Ahmet Altiner SEAS'02** to make her oil available at his dermatology offices on the Upper West Side and in Brooklyn Heights. Garonne has also embarked on the wonderful and thrilling journey of motherhood, with her daughter, Grace.

Scott Koonin shared a great picture from our 15-year reunion (see it nearby)! Please send updates on what and who I missed there to soniah57@gmail.com. And, as always, all other updates are welcome!

2003

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Michael Novielli
mjn29@columbia.edu

I hope that you've found this past summer rejuvenating, fun and fulfilling. In this issue we highlight classmates who are having a huge impact on industries as wide ranging as K–12 and higher education, social work, food and beverage, and entertainment, with quite a few updates from the educators in our class. Would love to hear from more

of you, be it about your career, family, leadership positions, hobbies or even just an interesting book you've read, trip you've taken or restaurant tip you'd like to share. Do drop me a line at mjn29@columbia.edu so that I can include you in my next column.

Francis Lora SW'09, MS, LCSW, CFS is now SIFI (seminar on field instruction) certified and able to officially supervise social work students from all participating social work master's programs. Additionally, already a certified financial social worker and financial emotional development specialist, Francis is developing a course and coaching experience to help professionals who have been in and out of debt to stay out of debt.

Mindy Levine '04, GSAS'08 shares, "In addition to my work as an associate professor of chemistry at the University of Rhode Island, I am the incoming chair of the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society, serving chemists at all stages in the greater Boston area. Be in touch if you fit that description! Also, I recently started a new science birthday party and children's science programming business: The Party Elements!"

Seth Wax writes, "My wife, Elisabeth Berger BC'03, and I welcomed our first child, Mia, in March. I also recently started as the Jewish Chaplain at Williams College."

Will Wilmot writes, "My wife, Kate Klock '05, and I welcomed our son, Julian, in November. I've been teaching Latin since graduation and work on the Upper West Side at Trinity School."

Ebony Dix writes, "I am chief resident in psychiatry at WVU in Morgantown, W.Va., and am applying for geriatric psychiatry fellowships. When I'm not busy presenting at national conferences, I like to spend time at home with my three feline children."

Dana Zullo, now a mother of two, volunteers as the social media manager and board secretary for the Columbia University Club of Atlanta.

Following 14 years in China, with the most recent three years spent introducing international audiences to baijiu (Chinese traditional spirits) at Capital Spirits Beijing, the world's first dedicated baijiu bar, **Bill Isler** will soon be back in NYC full time. Bill and the Capital Spirits team will, in early 2018 and in cooperation with a major Chinese distillery, be launching a brand of baijiu in the United States and Europe, to be found soon on a bar shelf near you. More details to come in the next months."

Brandon Victor Dixon continues to make headlines, this time playing Terry Silver on the Starz hit drama series, *Power*. [Editor's note: See cover story.]

If you've been hiding under a rock, you might have missed Jonathan Lemire '01's incredible political reporting for the Associated Press.

Jill Santopolo's latest book, *The Light We Lost,* was recently chosen by *The Denver Post* as one of its staff picks. While *The Light We Lost* is for adults, Jill has a number of publications for children, including her *Sparkle Spa* series.

Carter Reum was invited to serve on the Board of Trustees for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Carter, alongside his brother Courtney Reum '01, co-founded M13, "a brand development and investment company accelerating businesses at the nexus of consumer products, technology and media; companies such as Pinterest, Lyft, and Shake Shack are part of their vast portfolio."

2004

Jaydip Mahida
jmahida@gmail.com

Jax Russo Curtin LAW'07 writes, "It's been a while since I sent an update! I've been senior counsel at Heineken USA since 2013. In November 2015, my husband, **Jeff Curtin,** and I welcomed our daughter, Aurora Catherine. We live in Park Slope in Brooklyn."

David Johns TC'06 will return to Columbia to pursue a Ph.D. in sociology and education policy at Teachers College after receiving his master's in the same disciplines in 2006.

Adam Gidwitz's children's novel, *The Inquisitor's Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog* — an epic medieval adventure — was awarded a Newbery Honor, one of the highest awards in children's literature. It's the story of three children — a peasant girl, a Jewish boy and a young monk of African descent — with miraculous powers, fighting to save the Talmuds of France from being burned by King Louis IX. [Editor's note: See Spring 2017 "Bookshelf."]

Brian Platzer's novel *Bed-Stuy is Burning* was published in July. *Vanity Fair, The Wall Street Journal,* NBC and *The New York Post* have all raved about this "thrilling debut novel about marriage, gentrification, parenthood, race and the dangerous bargains we make with ourselves" (Ann Packer) set over the course of one cataclysmic day when riots erupt in a rapidly gentrifying Brooklyn neighborhood. Brian says he feels deeply indebted to his professors for teaching him so much.

Sivan Kinberg GSAS'15 is an assistant professor of pediatrics and biomedical informatics at Columbia University Medical Center. She specializes in pediatric gastroenterology. As the director of the Pediatric Intestinal Rehabilitation Clinic, Sivan leads a multidisciplinary team that cares for children with intestinal failure.

Vernon Beckford wrote in to say that he recently got married.

Congratulations, Vernon!

Please continue to send in updates, as we want to hear from as many folks as possible. Career and family updates are always fun, but please reach out to share about trips you might take, events you have attended or are looking forward to, or even interesting books or shows you have come across. You can send updates either via the email at the top of the column or the *CCT* Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2005

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

Marc Aspis and his wife, Sharon Aspis BC'10, welcomed their second son, Matthew Eli, on May 26.

Congrats, Marc and Sharon!

From **Cristina Carpio** PS'09: "I am a board certified general surgeon, now working at South Shore Hospital in Weymouth, Mass."

Great work, Cristina!

Please send your notes to cct@columbia.edu or use the Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. Your classmates would love to hear from you!

2006

Michelle Oh Sing
mo2057@columbia.edu

Friends, here are some exciting updates from classmates:

Marc Williams married Julie Nusbaum on December 31 in Great Neck, N.Y. Attendees included Danny Bessner GS'06, Dave Hudson GS'06, David Kaplowitz GS'07, **Brian Wolfson, Seth Wainer, David Seidman, Asher Mullokandov** and Gavriel Mullokandov '07. [Editor's note: See "Just Married!" for a photo.]

Jonathan Ward returned to the United States after 11 years abroad, during which time he completed a Ph.D. at Oxford in China-India relations. He has set up a company to consult on China and India and resides in Washington, D.C.

Neeraj Pradhan recently joined the leadership team of Commonwealth Joe Coffee Roasters as its director of corporate strategy. From the company: "Commonwealth Joe is a premium specialty coffee and nitro cold brew company that is vertically integrated with multi-channel distribution and retail. It is a leading provider of nitro cold brew to offices in the D.C. Metro Area and is looking to scale to new geographies in the near future."

Brian Wagner is taking a leave of absence from his job as COO of ScoutComms to deploy to Afghanistan as a Navy reservist. He is assigned to Resolute Support, the NATO-led train, advise and assist mission, and will serve as a public affairs officer in Kabul through April 2018.

2007

David D. Chait
david.donner.chait@gmail.com

It was so nice seeing so many of you at our 10-year reunion in June! The Class of 2007 had an incredibly

strong showing and I hope everyone had as much fun as I did. Here, some exciting updates from our class:

Melissa Flores Caban and her husband, Cleo Caban, welcomed their first child, Alexander John Caban, on May 10.

Amram Migdal, Rebecca Midgal and Meirav Migdal are thrilled to welcome daughter and little sister, Sarit Lotte Migdal.

Helam Gebremariam and **Subash Iyer** had a baby boy, Anand Desta Iyer-Gebremariam, on July 20. All are doing well in Washington, D.C.!

Addison Anderson shares, "My movie *Trivia Night* is now streaming on Amazon! It's an indie comedy set in the pub quiz underworld of NYC. It appeared at a bunch of film festivals (and won 'Best Feature' at one) and I made it alongside fellow CC Paunchies Colin Drummond '09 and Michael Molina '10."

John Shekitka TC'17 earned an M.Phil. in social studies education from TC. He writes, "I hope to have the Ph.D. finished in the next year or so."

In January, **Alison Mariella Désir** GSAS'11 launched Run 4 All Women, a "running initiative created to support women and provide a hedge against political efforts to defund Planned Parenthood." She shares: "The movement raised more than $103,000 in just 30 days — more than double the goal. Alison led the 240-mile relay from Harlem to Washington, D.C., January 18–21, with hundreds of runners and supporters along the way donating supplies, food, time and encouragement to the team. The group is now taking its next steps, with several runs that were scheduled for the second weekend in August, again benefiting Planned Parenthood, along with a virtual participation option. For more information, visit Run4AllWomen.com or @run4allwomen on social media." [Editor's note: See "Alumni Corner," Spring 2017.]

Josie Raymond JRN'08 (née Swindler) writes, "I'm excited to share that I'm running for State Representative in Louisville, Ky., in the district where I grew up. It's time for empathetic and engaged new leadership willing to talk about higher wages, healthcare as a right and quality education from pre-K to college. Please see what the campaign is about at josieraymond.com and let me know if you want to join us on the trail. We would welcome a *Spectator* embed."



Kat Vorotova '07, Julia Kite '07 and Rachel Hensel '07 met up on South Lawn during their 10-year reunion.

2008

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Neda Navab
nn2126@columbia.edu

On May 20, **John Davisson** and **Amanda Erickson** got married on Long Island, alongside many of "our fellow Speccies." In attendance were **Andrew Martin, Owen Hearey, Josh Hirschland,** Megan Greenwell BC'06, Leora Falk BC'07, **Erin Durkin,** Adam Kushner '03, Jimmy Vielkind-Neun '07, Morgan Sellers '06, **Laura Brunts, Deborah Beim,** Daniella Zalcman '09, Lydia DePillis '09, Sara Vogel '09 and Simone Sebastian '03. [Editor's note: See "Just Married!" for a photo.]

David Henry Gerson married Liv Prior Colliander on September 3. The couple met on their first day of graduate school at the American Film Institute.

Ariana Mason married Cornell alumnus Michael Denis-Rohr on June 17 in Philadelphia. **Carlene Liriano** and **Beatriz Herrera** were in the bridal party. Other alumni in attendance: **Jeff Fineberg,** Anna Fineberg '10, **Caroline Sherman, Alexandra Eisermann, Kardelen Pekcan Turan SEAS'08, Angela Kou** and the bride's dad, Gary Mason '69. Ariana practices dentistry in the Philadelphia area, so contact her at drmasondmd@gmail.com if you are looking for a dentist!

Maximilian Bulinski married Erin Maskell in late April in Baltimore. In attendance were Columbia friends spanning the Classes of 1958–2010. [Editor's note: See "Just Married!" for a photo.]

Congrats to all! Send your news to me at nn2126@columbia.edu.

2009

Alidad Damooei
damooei@gmail.com

On October 7, 2016, **Chantée Dempsey** married her law school love, Nicholas J. Morin. The ceremony was held at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, with the reception at the Loeb Boathouse Central Park. Columbians in attendance included **Toluwalope Onafowokan, David Cooper** and **Jordan Tucker.** [Editor's note: See "Just Married!" for a photo.]

Maxime Harnik (née Glass) and Evan Harnik welcomed their daughter, Rose Sloane Harnik, on May 30.

Monique Alves celebrated the completion of her Dartmouth College's Tuck School of Business M.B.A. on June 10. She heads to Seattle next to join the Microsoft retail marketing group. Monique proudly rocks Blue and Green now.

Share your news with classmates by emailing me at damooei@gmail.com!

2010

Julia Feldberg Klein
juliafeldberg@gmail.com

Hi 2010. For the first time in a while, I have some news of my own to share. It was an exciting summer, to say the least. After graduating from Harvard Business School in May, I got married in early June to Gregg Klein at the Boston Public Library, on a gorgeous summer evening. In attendance from Columbia and Barnard were **Matthew Harold, Joey Goldberg, Alexa Hubbard, Charlotte Freinberg, Gabe Saltzman,** Charlotte Furet BC'10, Roxanna Dehnad SEAS'10, Stephanie Zuckerbrod SEAS'10, **Jason Zuckerbrod '09** and Mohan Ramaswamy SEAS'04. Now, I am settling in to a calmer life in Boston and was to start a job as a product manager at TripAdvisor in August.

Rachel Vishnepolsky finished a Ph.D. in mathematics at the University of Chicago this past summer. She was planning to move back to NYC and start work as a data scientist in August.

Last but not least, from **Chris Yim:** "In June, I started a sock monkey company. This is my shameless plug, but the mission of the company is to give support to children who grew up without a best friend and lacked that emotional and social outlet. I'm calling the company and product Friend Monkey Best. The website is still in production, but will hopefully be up by the time that you read this. It's a solo project that is allowing me to explore myself as an artist. I'm doing all the designing, sewing, production and creating a unique facial expression on each sock monkey. If you're asking what you can do with this monkey, it's geared toward both adults and children, and you can take it with you wherever you would meet or hang out with a best friend — in the front seat of a car, at a cafe, on the beach or next to you at home on the couch watching *Friends from College* (a new Netflix series).

"Jake Grumbach and I went to Yosemite recently. I told him that I've become more agnostic, and we talked about existence. The conclusion that I reached is that while life may be 'meaningless,' meaning, as **Tiff Jung**



Monique Alves '09 with Dartmouth College's Tuck School of Business Professor Paul A. Argenti '75 at Alves' graduation from Tuck.

would say, is all relative. We are on this big rock floating through space, and what we've done in banding together as a human race is a beautiful thing, and it's up to me as an individual to create a narrative for myself to find meaning in what I do, the people I love and how I go about my day to day. I organize a Yosemite trip every year and it's one of my favorite places to go in the world. When I'm out in nature and experiencing really beautiful things that you can't articulate with words, I realize there's so much more in the fabric of this reality. Are we in base reality?

"So, my faith has changed significantly in the past 18 months, and I find myself looking for a new identity. Stay tuned. I recently celebrated two years of marriage, and I can say that it does get better! My wife, Grace, and I are hitting our stride with a lot of hard work that we've done to improve how we communicate and support each other. I still annoy her, but I'd like to think I make her laugh and [that she is] equally as happy [as I am].

"I've recently started volunteering at a homeless shelter serving meals. I'm doing improv and starting to put myself out there at a few jams in San Francisco. I'm also training for a marathon in November that I'll run with my father-in-law. He wanted to cross one item off the bucket list, so I'm doing this with him.

"Oh! And I'm looking for ways to get involved in racial justice. If you have any ideas or are working on anything interesting, please get in touch."

2011

Nuriel Moghavem and Sean Udell
nurielm@gmail.com
sean.udell@gmail.com

And the Class of 2011 keeps making moves! The two of us really loved getting your updates this time, as we always do, especially since we're both scurrying around hospitals these days trying to learn some medicine. Your news updates are a periodic bright spot in our days.

First, some vacation updates from this past summer. **Nuriel Moghavem** joined with **Jan Hendrik Van Zoelen Cortés** and the two successfully traveled across the trans-Siberian railroad. A highlight was meeting two brothers on the train, both lawyers for the factory that manufactures Kalashnikov rifles. Jan used his Department of Slavic Languages skills to chat with them, while the brothers made it clear they did not want him to translate for "The American."

Nicole Catá traveled to Dublin, Barcelona and Verona this past summer. One of the highlights was strolling along the Barceloneta and sampling tapas with **Anna Caroline Ultvedt Malkan**! In August, Nicole started working as a staff attorney at the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (fun fact: Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann '73 is there, too!).

And many of our fine classmates have new gigs! **Kurt Kanazawa** has signed with Aperture Talent Agency in Los Angeles, owned by Wilhelmina International. It's a boutique full-service agency for commercial work, print modeling, and theatrical film and television. After Kurt had some small successes in film, TV and print modeling in Italy, and working with a couple of agencies there, he figured he'd try it in his hometown for a bit. He suspects he'll be around until the end of 2017 at the minimum, but likely longer; however, he says he misses Italy: acting in Italian was (predictably) so fun. If you know of casting directors or writers in Los Angeles for TV miniseries, sitcoms, movies or theater, please send them his way or have them check out the spiffy kurtkanazawa.com.

In May, **Dino Grandoni** JRN'15 started as a reporter at *The Washington Post*, where he was hired to cover energy and environmental issues and start a newsletter on that beat. The job dislodged him from New York, where he had lived since arriving on campus in August 2007. Dino says he misses the city, but is thrilled to work at the *Post* and report on the Trump administration. If you are in Washington, D.C., give him a holler.

Coco Oliva recently started a job at Providence, the two-Michelin-starred restaurant in Los Angeles, where she is a line cook in chef Michael Cimarusti's kitchen. Previously she worked for chefs Jon Shook and Vinny Dotolo, the restaurateurs behind Animal, Son of a Gun, Trois Mec and Petit Trois in Los Angeles. Nom.



ANDREW KISCH

Candise Henry '12, Alessia Morales '12, Amina McKenzie '12 and Alex Pitz '12 celebrated their five-year reunion together.

And an update on a classmate who literally has a new gig: **Lety Elnaggar** launched the Berlin-based, futuristic-world music band Out Of Nations, which plays cross-over music rooted in funk, Arabic, Latin and pop styles, inspired by a desire to fly effortlessly over borders and between cultures. Their first single, "Sellem," is available in the Middle East and North Africa and debuted worldwide on July 11 on iTunes, Apple Music, Spotify, Bandcamp and so on.

And fulfilling every glorious stereotype, two of our CC friends have married their BC sweethearts. **Jack Zietman** married Ilana Krakowski BC'11 on June 11. The couple met in a Hinduism class during sophomore year and started dating after running into each other on the street in Washington, D.C., a year after graduation. Many Columbia and Barnard alumni attended the wedding, including Shosh Brownstein GS'09, Aviva Buechler BC'11, David Charkes '52, Simeon Cohen GS'11, Brandon DeShields GS'12, Ariel Fein BC'11, Shayna Flink GS'11, Arielle Fried-Tanzer (née Feit) GS'11, Mira John SEAS'11, Laura Landau BC'12, **Hannah Perls**, Adina Rosen BC'11, Ariella Rosen GS'09, Jordan Schuster GSAS'07, Rami Schwartzer GS'11, David Shiovitz SEAS'11 and Andy Wessbecher GS'12. [Editor's note: See "Just Married!" for a photo.]

In August 2016, **Vesal Yazdi** and Nicole Cerutti BC'12 were married in Florence, Italy. Dear friends **Alex Bancu, Alex Chun, Kate Clairmont, Devika Ramnani** and **Kelly Valencia SEAS'11** were in attendance. Vesal graduated from Harvard Business School in May and the couple moved back to New York City in June. Vesal will be an investor at Davidson Kempner while Nicole will be a psychotherapist. They're looking forward to seeing old faces in the city!

And, of course, many of us can't get enough school so we keep on going and then sometimes we graduate. **Eleanor Shi** SIPA'17 wrapped up two more years at Columbia for an M.P.A.; she focused on renewable energy finance and policy. After traveling through Europe with **Kamsen Lau, Peter Lucak** and Elyssa Goldberg '12, she packed her bags and (finally) left New York for the East Bay. Eleanor now lives in Berkeley with **Anne Kramer** and works for SunPower in project finance, trying to resist joining the bandwagon of Golden State fans.

Ola Jacunski GSAS'16 successfully defended a Ph.D. in computational biology, and graduated from Columbia for (she hopes) the last time. She began working with The Boston Consulting Group in August.

Bracha Waldman (née Rubin) TC'15 and Benjamin Waldman GS'08, JTS'08 welcomed their first child, Samson Gary, in June. They recently moved to Teaneck, N.J. Bracha is a speech-language pathologist and Benjamin teaches U.S. history in New York City schools.



ANDREW PINELLI

Members of the Class of 2014 had fun at Park Avenue Spring in April. Here, Alena Kluge, Maggie D'Arcy, Charlotte Haney, Olivia Rose Tow and Dana Benami.

And lastly but not leastly, **Justin Vlasits** finished a Ph.D. in philosophy at UC Berkeley this past summer and is off to start a post-doc at Universität Tübingen in Germany in October. He will be joined by his wife, Anna Vlasits (née Corke) '09, and son, Arthur (2).

2012

Sarah Chai
sarahbchai@gmail.com

It was so great catching up with so many of you at our five-year reunion in June. Between dancing on Low Steps and grabbing some Heights margs, it was amazing to hear how our lives have changed but also to revert to a version of our college selves. In that spirit, I want to share "A Personal Note to Columbia University's Class of 2012," written by my dear friend **Morgan Fletcher** about a week after our reunion:

"This time last week I still wasn't sure whether or not to go to my Columbia five-year reunion. To be honest, the mere idea was anxiety-inducing; many of the people I now call my closest friends were not in my graduating class (or even in college with me), but if they were, they weren't coming into town for it. What squad would I roll up with? Who would I cling to as I avoided all my exes (don't judge me, personal growth is a journey and life is long!)? What was I supposed to do about bumping into the people I remembered as not liking me/ who I didn't like/ who were too cool for me? How would I navigate the hundreds of faces? What if I forgot someone or had been forgotten?

"So I was resolute in my decision making and, despite the fact that reunion was happening about 50 blocks from where I live, I decided I. Wasn't. Going.

"I told myself, 'I see everyone enough on FB as it is, right? I'm close to the people I want to be close to, and I can make my own decisions! And I don't want to give Columbia any more of my money!' My mind was set.

"But I realized that I was acting from a place of fear. And I was afraid because I was actually incredibly sad for most of my undergraduate experience.

"As I've mentioned on FB, my dad was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer late fall of my freshman year. He died 10 months later — exactly how long the doctors said he would live. And even before his diagnosis, I was not at home on this new campus. Though New York was my native city, I had been very happy with my high school life and friends in Virginia. I was the only one of my group of friends (still tight-knit) who went out of state for college, and missing them was basically a four-credit class in itself. Once my dad was diagnosed, I was deeply depressed and had some very dark thoughts. I also spent some time in some pretty toxic relationships, both platonic and romantic. Basically, I was at an all-time high, y'all.

"Time did its thing and kept moving, and I stuck it out through the four years, holding on tight to the promise that an Ivy League degree and an overinflated sense of optimism could see me through the worst. Despite what I was going through, I didn't take time off or transfer schools, though I'm sure my body and mind would have thanked me if I had. I made unhealthy choices and wrecked some relationships. I caused damage and was collateral damage myself. We were all experiencing learning and growing pains, and the environment of Columbia was unyielding in its demands…

"And then I went abroad for eight months, came back the second semester of senior year, and then it was all over. 'Finally,' I thought, liberated. I practically ran off of campus — I even accidentally slept through a graduation ceremony because I was so emotionally and physically disconnected (sorry BSO, love yooou). I felt isolated and exhausted, ready to move on from an experience where I had largely felt chewed up and spit out.

"What kept me going throughout those tumultuous four years, though, were the friendships I had found. Somehow through all of the hardship I connected with people who, no matter whether I faltered or flourished, stood by me. They consoled me, protected me and pushed me forward.

"At our five-year reunion, I learned that there were more of those people than I even knew. I was able to catch up with classmates and learn about who they're becoming. In our post-grad worlds, we'd moved into adulthood, shedding much of the stress of Expectation™ ingrained in us by a demanding educational infrastructure. For five years we'd been learning to operate in new and less predictable environments. Our experiences differed dramatically, and without a series of required reading texts to unify us, we were in the process of becoming our fullest and most individualized selves.

"More than once during these inspiring conversations I heard — or said — a variation of, 'Well I know you're doing XYZ, 'cause I saw it online! How is that going?' I received this inquiry with joy. We have kept an eye on one another digitally and supported one another from our own corners of the world, only to find one another evolved and still evolving, back on campus five years later.

"I didn't anticipate the encouragement, enthusiasm and love I was immediately met with. I had overestimated the negative impact I had on others during my most trying times, and underestimated a human's ability to empathize, forget, forgive and let live.

"I saw someone from CU Admissions once reunion was over, and I asked her if she felt that every graduating class has students who feel as unified as we seemed to, or if other reunions were less emotional and enthusiastic? She told me, 'Sometimes. Sometimes there are groups within the years that are tight, but not like you guys. You guys as a whole seem close, and that's unique.'

"So I want to take this moment to say to those whom I graduated with, thank you for being a beautiful and unique group of individuals. Thank you for finding your way to pursuing your dreams and bringing that inspiration to our reunion. And thanks to the friends who set off my FOMO so hard that I bought event tickets day-of to most of our reunion events and stayed up past 4 a.m. each night. You were all worth it, from Day One to now."

Thanks to Morgan for sharing this beautiful piece. Morgan is based in Harlem and is a social media marketer for both brands and nonprofits. Off the clock you can



David Beal '15, Martha Scott Burton '15, Sam Yulsman '14 and Gabrielle DaCosta '15 celebrated Richard Lenz '12's birthday earlier this year.

find her in the process of learning languages (she's now on her third non-native language!), co-directing the Art Girl Army, performing freelance voiceover work, teaching embroidery workshops or discussing pop culture over tea.

And thanks to Ruthy, Ali, Dominique and Gillian for sharing the latest in their lives!

Ruthy Glass (née Sher) successfully completed a Ph.D. in psychoneuroimmunology at Rutgers and will continue her research during a post-doctoral fellowship in the Vincent Center for Reproductive Biology in Massachusetts General Hospital through Harvard.

Congratulations, Ruthy!

Ali Hard TC'17 says hello from her new home in Washington, D.C. "After finishing a master's in nutrition and public health at Teachers College this past May, I was excited to start a position as senior public policy associate at the National WIC Association in August in Washington, D.C. I'll be fighting for access to critical nutrition services for families. If you are in D.C., please reach out! Mike Weng SEAS'11 and I are looking forward to attending plenty of protests and marches, and we'd love for our Columbia friends to join us!"

After wrapping up her time at the Obama White House, **Dominique Mann** began working in corporate communications at GE. In her spare time, she's writing, acting and working on multimedia side projects. She's based in Washington, D.C., and Boston and hopes to travel more domestically in the coming year, especially to better understand the country at this time. Feel free to connect with her, especially for travel and organizing ideas!

Gillian Rhodes sent an update from South Korea: "It was a traveling spring, with a performance in India and being on a panel for the 'School of Tomorrow' conference in Islamabad. [In July, I spent] a long working holiday in Paris, where I performed for the OuiShare Fest 2017 and TEDxVannes! Too bad I couldn't fit in a trip to New York for reunion!"

We'll see you at the next reunion, Gillian!

Thanks to everyone who wrote in! Please email me at sarahbchai@gmail.com to get your notes in the Winter 2017–18 issue!

2013

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Tala Akhavan
talaakhavan@gmail.com

After graduation, **Lucie Cincinatis** worked for a private equity fund for four months, quickly realizing that she didn't find the meaning or purpose she was looking for in that field. She left New York and moved to Haiti through a fellowship program with the American Jewish Committee with the aim of developing educational programs and support schools in the slums of Port-au-Prince. After a year, she started a social enterprise called Jacmel & Co., a sustainable fashion brand, which aimed to promote job creation in Haiti and show the beauty of the country through crafts and arts.

She continued her life journey, which brought her to Asia, where she discovered the beauty of the Himalayas through trekking, dove into yoga and meditation in India, and learned more about Buddhism. Lucie then launched The Donkeys, a social impact travel company based in Nepal. She facilitates and leads treks, which also include meditation, yoga and volunteer work for a school that collapsed in the earthquake. When Lucie is not facilitating treks in Nepal, she usually travels around the world, in her words, "teaching yoga or facilitating self-development workshops that aim to create harmony, beauty and gratefulness in the life of other humans."

Since graduating, **Arielle Kogut** has moved on from investment banking to the buy-side. She hit her first-year anniversary at Hudson Bay Capital and travels every chance she has.

On August 24, **Victoria Wolf Lewis** married Hezi Ben Sasson GS'16, JTS'16 in Israel, where they got engaged in December 2016. Victoria and Hezi met on campus only a few days before Victoria's graduation, just as Hezi was completing his freshman year at GS. They spent the summer together until Victoria left for Cleveland, where she earned a master's in music (in violin performance and Suzuki pedagogy) at the Cleveland Institute of Music in May 2015. After a year and a half of overnight bus rides between Cleveland and NYC and quick campus trips, during which most of the time was spent in Uris, in Hezi's words, "The rest is history."

Victoria performs mostly opera and chamber music and also teaches privately. After graduating from GS with a major in psychology and from JTS with a major in modern Jewish studies, Hezi has been working in the finance industry in New York City.

I recently moved from New York City to Los Angeles to take a role at the tech company where I work. I stay involved in the Columbia community remotely and look forward to working with the West Coast alumni organizations to further establish the CC presence in California.

Send notes to me at talaakhavan@gmail.com. Your classmates want to hear from you!



Daniela Quintanilla '14 and Abigail Mitchell '14 took this photo during a March trip to Preikestolen, Norway.



Emily Dreibelbis '14 (left) and Naomi Senbet '14 ran a half-marathon in Seattle.

2014

Rebecca Fattell
rsf2121@columbia.edu

George T. Phillips graduated with honors from Georgetown's Law Center in May and will begin practicing with Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan in New York this fall. George's girlfriend, **Caitlin Jokubaitis** LAW'19, is a Stone Scholar at the Law School.

Andrew Wright got engaged to his high school sweetheart, Caitlyn Ziobro (NYU Tisch'15), earlier this

year! He's VP of research at Marathon Strategies, a New York-based public affairs firm founded by Hillary Clinton and Chuck Schumer campaigns alum Phil Singer. Andrew helps to manage opposition/self-research and due diligence vetting for clients.

Jennifer Lee was scheduled to start at Harvard Business School this fall. Having spent time at SpaceX in operations, she says she's excited about the power of hardware to make our lives more efficient, interesting and experiential. She spent the summer living in France and eating way too many almond croissants.

Naomi Senbet and **Emily Dreibelbis** did not meet until they both moved to Seattle three years after graduation. The Columbia connection helped pull them through their first half marathon together; they completed it in under two hours. #sub2 #GoLions

Bob Sun is a recipient of a medical student fellowship to conduct research at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences/National Institutes of Health in Durham, N.C., July 2017–June 2018.

Austin Lowe completed his first year of graduate studies in the Asian Studies Program at Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service, which he is attending on a fully funded merit-based scholarship. He completed an internship at the Department of State in Washington, D.C., this spring and spent the summer as an intern at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing. Austin was last in Beijing in 2013, as an undergraduate participating in the Columbia-Tsinghua exchange program.

And I, **Rebecca Fattell,** still only live with members of JJ5.

2015

Kareem Carryl
kareem.carryl@columbia.edu

Doesn't it feel like we just started 2017? Now we are already in the fall. As you return to school or get back into the work grind, please remember to send your updates my way! For now, we have a few updates:

Bitania Wondimu writes, "I'm excited to be starting my second year of medical school at Northwestern University, and I'm continuing to do research with the Chicago South Side Trauma First Responders Course."

Paloma Contreras writes, "I live in Brooklyn and work at the law firm Cleary Gottlieb, where I have been contributing to the Brazil Practice Group for the past year. I took the GRE this past summer and am preparing to apply for Ph.D. programs. I hope to begin my Ph.D. in history, specifically Brazilian history, in fall 2018. I am looking forward to reaching out both to my undergraduate professors at Columbia and prospective professors in doctoral programs of interest as I prepare my graduate applications."

Oluremi Onabanjo wrote that she recently curated an international exhibition, "Recent Histories: Contemporary African Photography and Video Art" (2017) with The Walther Collection; she also edited the accompanying catalog of the same name, co-published with Steidl. While she took on the role of director of exhibitions and collections in fall 2016, she started working on this project while interning at The Walther Collection during her senior year at Columbia.

As for me, I had a recent visit to Pittsburgh, where I caught up with **Zan Gilani.**

As always, your classmates want to hear from you! Please be sure to submit updates to Class Notes by writing me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note. You can also use the *CCT* Class Notes photos webform to send in a photo of yourself with fellow College alumni: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

Oluremi Onabanjo '15 curated an international exhibition, "Recent Histories: Contemporary African Photography and Video Art" (2017) with The Walther Collection.



Zan Gilani '15 (left) and Kareem Carryl '15 recently caught up in Pittsburgh.



Parthi Loganathan SEAS'16 sent in this photo of Columbia alumni and students hanging out in San Francisco. Pictured: Brian Zeng '16, Robert Ying SEAS'16, Adam Reis SEAS'15, Nate Brennand SEAS'15, Bella Shim '19, Flora Min Jung Park SEAS'18 and Loganathan.

2016

Lily Liu-Krason
lliukrason@gmail.com

Hey 2016, your classmates were up to some amazing things this summer:

Jackson Fisher writes: "Oh hey, Class of 2016! I didn't see you there. I was a little distracted by my dreams and the fact that I am living them. These dreams include working in a support staff role at a cool office with lots of free snacks, yelling at current undergrads about how we never got a Shake Shack when I was in school and hanging out in the air ducts above 1020 so I can feel young again but also like a spooky ghost. I also produce and perform comedy all over the city! Simone Norman BC'15 and I cohost a monthly stand-up show, *Branded Content,* and I improvise in a show whose name is probably too gross to print in this publication. Follow me on Facebook or Twitter (@jacksondfisher) for details on the shows — we love to see classmates in the crowd! But please don't tell my boss about my tweets. Many of them are also gross, and I really depend on those snacks."

Nick Perloff-Giles writes that he recently signed under his artist project, Wingtip, to Republic Records, a

division of Universal Music Group. He's thrilled and excited to be playing festivals all over the country this summer, including Lollapalooza in Chicago, Life is Beautiful in Las Vegas and Electric Zoo in NYC! He'll also be on tour throughout the country and Canada in the fall and winter. Please reach out if you see him on a flyer near you!

Taylor Gray Wlazlo writes: "After four years of long distance between New York and Texas, Andrew (Texas A&M Engineering '16) and I were married July 1 in Houston at the beautiful Chateau Polonez. Several Columbia alumni were in the bridal party, including maid of honor **Sarah Berlinger SEAS'16,** bridesmaids **Alison Chang** and **Sonya Li,** and bridesman **Saaket Pradhan** (former president of CC'16). Also attending were **Richin Kabra** and **Akira Baruah SEAS'16.** After a wonderful honeymoon in Scotland and Ireland, we have settled back into life in west Texas, where Andrew is a petroleum engineer and I will attend Texas Tech HSC School of Medicine." [Editor's note: See "Just Married!" for a photo.]

Raymond de Oliveira writes: "I met Nadia seven and a half years ago. We were married less than a month after graduation in Annapolis, Md., at the William Paca House. Columbia alumni who attended were **Michael Barth, Claudia Moreira SEAS'16, Marc Pelessone SEAS'16, Joseph Powers, Christopher Sabaitis,** Ludwig Suarez '15 and **Ming Zhao.** Less than two days later we were in San Francisco, where we had signed a rental lease without having ever seen the apartment. For the next month, until work started, we honeymooned around the city, attending lots of fairs, festivals and concerts, and lived together for the first time." [Editor's note: See "Just Married!" for a photo.]



Daniel Schwartz '17 recently became engaged to Elizabeth Rosen '18.

Parthi Loganathan SEAS'16 writes: "There's a growing Columbia alumni community in San Francisco. Do reach out! We'll recreate good times on Low Steps at Dolores. A recent gathering had **Brian Zeng, Robert Ying SEAS'16,** Adam Reis SEAS'15, Nate Brennand SEAS'15, Bella Shim '19, Flora Min Jung Park SEAS'18 and me!"

Have any fun things you want to share? Want to put some of your friends on blast? Let me know at lliukrason@gmail.com!

2017

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Jilliann Rodriguez M'Barki
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

Development Contact
Heather Siemienas
hs2843@columbia.edu
212-851-7855

Carl Yin
carl.yin@columbia.edu

Hello from your class correspondent. Hope everyone had a great summer and is adjusting well to being an actual adult. Some updates from our classmates:

Whitney-Shannon Alam has been working at Columbia University's Office of Alumni & Development as the coordinator for Columbia Giving Day, scheduled for Wednesday, October 18! Afterward, Whitney-Shannon plans to be a college adviser at NYU.

Nick Wolferman went to Namibia and saw tons of different animals. Overall, he found it to be an awesome experience, he says.

Makeda Yohannes is a research and program associate at the Brennan Center for Justice, working on voting rights and elections in the democracy program.

This fall, **Justin Aimonetti** will attend the UVA School of Law; he was awarded the prestigious Dillard Scholarship.



Jason Eisner '17 (center) spent two months trekking through Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Japan with Eitan Neugut '17 and Jordana Fremed '17.

Hala Moussawi is a research assistant at the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C.

Yushu Han started a full-time job as a research associate in the New York office of Sanford C. Bernstein. This past summer she spent time in her hometown, Beijing, and traveled across China before heading back to New York. She is exploring fun activities and exotic restaurants in the city outside the Morningside Heights bubble. Yushu plans to get a guinea pig soon!

After competing at the NCAA Track Championships in Eugene, Ore., **Natalie Tanner** has enjoyed traveling to London, Bristol, Nice and Stockholm with some of her closest friends from Columbia. After her travels, Natalie packed up her life in New York and moved to California to start neuroscience research in the Memory Lab at Stanford.

Taylor Mills is a legislative assistant for the NYC Council. In October, she will move to Amiens, France, to teach English in elementary schools.

At this writing, **Jason Eisner** was in the middle of a two-month trek through Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Japan with Eitan Neugut '17 and **Jordana Fremed.** They have visited some incredible sites, such as Angkor Wat and the Hanoi Hilton, where John McCain was held captive for almost six years. After the trip is over, Jason will move from New York to Los Angeles to work at the United Talent Agency in its Agent Trainee Program.

Daniel Schwartz started a master's in computer science at the Engineering School. He also recently became engaged to Elizabeth Rosen '18.

Congratulations!

Michael Abolafia writes, "As I write this, it's been just under two months since Commencement, and I feel as excited about the talents, prospects and aspirations of my fellow Lions as I did when I addressed the Class of 2017 on Class Day. The summer has been a restful and reflective one so far. I'm home in New Jersey and am an archival research assistant to Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Tom Reiss. I've also spent more than a few late nights and early mornings since May preparing for the next phase of my academic journey: A one-year master's (M.St.) in English literature (1900–present) at the University of Oxford, which begins in October. (Infinite thanks to the Harry J. Carman Fellowship and Henry Evans Travelling Fellowship for making this possible!) When I arrive in the City of Dreaming Spires (after a short jaunt in London), I'll be thinking fondly about Columbia and Morningside Heights and the classmates and professors who made my four years as remarkable as they were."

Lastly, a few updates of my own. After graduation, I traveled around Asia with family and friends, spending much of my time in my mom's hometown of Huangshan. A highlight of the trip was scuba-diving in Phuket with Jibben Hillen SEAS '17. After Asia, I plan to visit Germany and other parts of Europe with my cousin in August. After my travels, I will be somewhere on the East Side of Manhattan with roommates **Madeleine Steinberg** and Ankit Shah SEAS '17. I hope we'll have a place locked down by the time this issue is out!

If you have updates for the next issue, please send them my way (carl.yin@columbia.edu).

obituaries

1941

Sigmund J. Montgomery, engineer, finance executive, consultant, Darien, Conn., on February 27, 2017. Montgomery, who went by John, was born in Brooklyn, N.Y., on July 10, 1920, and grew up in Katonah, N.Y. He earned a B.S. from Columbia Engineering in 1942, then served in the Eighth Air Force, assigned to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's staff in England and France. He left the military as a major with a Bronze Star in 1946. Montgomery then returned to Columbia, earning an M.S. from Engineering in 1949, and was an assistant professor there 1948–59. Montgomery moved to Darien in 1947 and began consulting in management and engineering. He earned a Ph.D. in accounting from NYU's School of Business and then helped to develop the Graduate School of Business at the University of Connecticut Storrs and the M.B.A. program at UConn in Stamford. While teaching at UConn, the school loaned Montgomery to the city of Stamford to be its commissioner of finance. Montgomery was predeceased by his first wife, Jean. He is survived by his second wife, Ruth Richardson Montgomery; daughter, Cynthia Kowalski, and her husband Ronald; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and three stepchildren, Charles Skeele, Harrison Skeele and Sarah Post. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org).

Robert D. Zucker, retired CEO, Floral Park, N.Y., on June 8, 2017. Zucker enlisted in the Navy in 1941, attained the rank of lieutenant commander and commanded a fleet minesweeper in WWII. He was CEO of several companies, including one that evolved into Nautica. Zucker was mayor of the village of Roslyn Estates (N.Y.) for 10 years, navigated a sailboat to a win in the Newport to Bermuda



Robert D. Zucker '41

race and especially enjoyed opera and tennis. At the College, Zucker was CC'41 class president, CC'41 *CCT* Class Notes correspondent 2008–16, *Jester* business manager and a ZBT brother. He was married for 58 years to Allyn Van Baalen; she predeceased him, as did a brother, Richard '44. For the last 16 years, Zucker was the partner of Fran Katz. He is survived by her, as well as his children, Micky (Lorry), Alan '68 and Nancy; four grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

1945

Melvin M. Grumbach, pediatric endocrinologist, San Francisco, on October 4, 2016. After growing up in Brooklyn, N.Y., Grumbach was the first in his family to go to college, doing his undergraduate, medical (P&S, 1948) and residency at Columbia. He met his wife, Dr. Madeleine Francis Grumbach PS'51, there. Married 55 years, until her death in 2007, the couple raised three sons, Ethan, Kevin and Anthony, and had five grandchildren, including Jacob '10 and Matthew '13. Grumbach's pioneering research elucidated the biologic mechanisms of sexual differentiation, growth and puberty, and addressed socially charged issues about gender identity and normal height variations. He chaired the UC San Francisco Department of Pediatrics 1966–86, transforming the department into one of the world's most prestigious programs. Grumbach was most at peace spending time with his family and friends at a vacation home on the Northern California coast, gazing at the Pacific Ocean and watching the sun set. In addition to his sons and grandchildren, he is survived by his brother, Lee. Memorial contributions may be made to the UCSF Foundation, UCSF Department of Pediatrics, 550 16th St., San Francisco, CA 94158-2549, "Attn.: Grumbach Research Award."

Anthony Vasilas, physician, Manhasset, N.Y., on April 7, 2017. Vasilas earned an M.D. from New York Medical College. He served in the Navy on Governors Island and in Washington, D.C., during the Korean War and became chair of the Radiology Department at Beekman Downtown Hospital, where he practiced until his retirement. Vasilas was a founder and president of the Archangel Michael and St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox churches, an archon and a lifetime member of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association. He helped to revitalize the Hellenic Medical Society of New York, was its president and was committed to medical education and philanthropic causes. Vasilas was predeceased by his wife of more than 65 years, and childhood sweetheart, Sophie (née Pappas); and daughter, Paula Roussos. He is survived by his son, Peter, and his wife, Sharon; daughter, Constance, and her husband, Ramon Parsons; son-in-law, Sakis Roussos; 11 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sister, Elpis Chandras; and brother- and sister-in-law, Nicholas and Alexandra Pappas. Memorial contributions may be made to the Archangel Michael Greek Orthodox Church and the Hellenic Medical Society of New York Scholarship Fund, 60 Plaza St. East, Brooklyn, NY 11238.

1948

Raymond G. Auwarter, retired newsprint sales CEO, Chapel Hill, N.C., on April 9, 2017. Auwarter was born in Queens, N.Y. After matriculating at the College, he served in the Navy for 18 months and graduated



Raymond G. Auwarter '48

on time with his class with a B.A. in business administration. Auwarter's newsprint career began in 1948 in the mailroom of The Madden Corp., where he rose to president and CEO of seven companies, and ended at the Donohue Paper Sales Corp., which he owned, in 1993. Auwarter was an active volunteer at Plandome Country Club, in Plandome (L.I.), N.Y.; president of the Nassau Country Club, Glen Cove (L.I.), N.Y., and on the board of Governors Club, Chapel Hill, N.C. He was a former member of the University Club of New York and volunteered for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society in North Carolina, Finland House and the Finnish American Chamber of Commerce. Auwarter played varsity basketball at the College and enjoyed music, dancing and collecting, but his faith and family were paramount. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Roberta; daughters, Ellen and Julia; son-in-law, Thomas Gleason; and four grandchildren. Memorial contri-

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 4th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, GSAS'53: "The Soul of Columbia College"

By Jamie Katz '72, BUS'80

Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, GSAS'53, the John Mitchell Mason Professor Emeritus and Provost Emeritus, died at home in Tappan, N.Y., on July 14, 2017, less than a month before his 98th birthday.

Renowned for his scholarship in East Asian religion, thought and society, de Bary taught on Morningside Heights for seven decades, earning admiration across the globe as an educator of formidable commitment, dignity and character. He founded Columbia's influential programs in Asian studies, including the groundbreaking undergraduate curriculum in Asian Civilizations and Asian Humanities he developed to complement the College's signature courses in the Western tradition. "Ted de Bary was a truly great Citizen of Columbia on every level, as an accomplished student, visionary scholar and respected academic leader," said President Lee C. Bollinger in a statement to the University community. "To the last, he was a beloved teacher and friend who remained devoted to his alma mater. And for that, generations of fellow Columbians will always be grateful."

Following the example of dedicated teachers of prior generations, de Bary championed the integrity of the College faculty and the Core Curriculum, upholding the Core's vitality and value not as an unchanging canon, but as an ever-evolving responsibility: to confront students with a common body of significant, enduring texts taught by a committed interdepartmental staff in small discussion sections. "He was deeply engaged with the Core Curriculum in all its dimensions," said Dean James J. Valentini. "His impact on the College has been far-reaching and will long continue to be felt."

De Bary's achievements earned him many honors, including a John Jay Award in 1989; the Alexander Hamilton Medal in 1999; the National Humanities Medal, given at the White House in 2014 by President Barack Obama '83; and, in 2016, the prestigious Tang Prize in Sinology, recognizing his pioneering contributions in Confucian and Neo-Confucian studies.

Born in the Bronx on August 9, 1919, de Bary was raised by a single mother in Leonia, N.J., where he attended public schools. In 1937, he was offered a scholarship to the College. In undergraduate classes with historians Carlton Hayes (Class of 1904, GSAS 1909) and Jacques Barzun '27, GSAS'32, philosopher Ernest Nagel GSAS'31 and many others, de Bary discovered a world of intellectual challenge, an experience he treasured. He was a campus leader, heading up the Debate Council, the Van Am Society and the student government. He dove into the city's jazz scene, catching Duke Ellington, Count Basie and other famed bands in Harlem and Greenwich Village. De Bary met his future wife, Fanny Brett BC'43, at a tea dance in Brooks Hall during his junior year. They were married for 67 years, until her death in 2009.

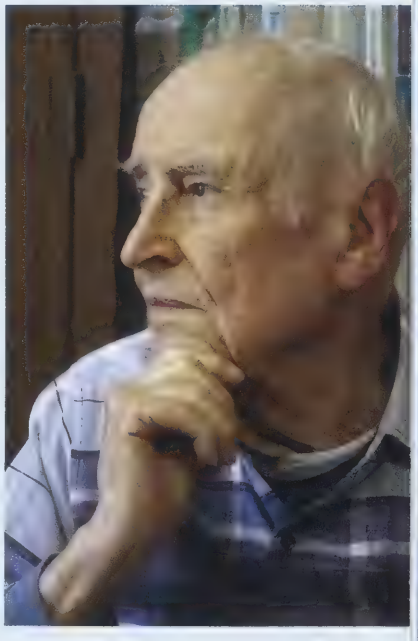
Recruited to U.S. Naval Intelligence shortly after Pearl Harbor, de Bary served in the Pacific theater. He was a doctoral student at Columbia in 1949 when Dean Harry J. Carman GSAS 1919 asked him to develop the Asian Core programs, a labor that entailed the creation of source books — texts, in translation, of classic works — employing the talents of such eminent scholars and translators as Donald Keene '42, GSAS'49, de Bary's close friend and colleague for three-quarters of a century. De Bary chaired the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures 1960–66, when he was named the Carpentier Professor of Oriental Studies. In the aftermath of the 1968 student uprising, he chaired the Executive Committee of the newly formed Columbia University Senate. He was appointed EVP for academic affairs and provost — the University's highest academic office — in 1971, serving until 1978.

De Bary officially retired in 1989, but continued teaching on a voluntary basis for another 28 years. He graded the last papers for his Spring 2017 courses — Asian Humanities and his seminar, "Nobility and Civility" — in May. "For more than half a century, Ted de Bary has been the soul of Columbia College," Andrew Delbanco, the Alexander Hamilton Professor of American Studies, told *CCT* in 2013.

It would be fair to ask if there has ever been a more true-blue Columbia loyalist than Ted de Bary. He attended his first football game at Baker Field as a schoolboy in 1927; as an alumnus (with the exception of sabbatical leaves), he did not miss a home game for more than 50 years. His legacy includes the creation of such institutional enrichments as the Heyman Center for the Humanities, the Society of Senior Scholars and the University Lectures.

He also made innumerable lesser-known contributions to campus life. In the mid-1970s, de Bary played a crucial role in the rescue of Reid Hall, Columbia's 18th-century academic center in Paris, which the trustees had considered selling to help close a budget shortfall. He and his wife made a substantial donation toward the establishment of the Wm. Theodore and Fanny Brett de Bary and Class of 1941 Collegiate Professorship of Asian Humanities. In 1995, they donated the Peace Altar in St. Paul's Chapel, fashioned by the celebrated Japanese-American woodworker and designer George Nakashima. A fixture at class reunions, award dinners and many other campus events, the de Barys had four children, three of whom survive them: Brett BC'65; Paul '68, LAW'71, BUS'71; and Mary Beatrice de Bary-Heinrichs GSAS'84. A daughter, Catherine de Bary Sleight BC'73, JRN'77, died in 2010. Between them they had eight grandchildren, three step-grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and a step-great-grandson.

Tucked amidst de Bary's scholarly works — he wrote or edited 33 volumes — there are passages that illuminate the purity of his mission as a teacher. In his final book, *The Great Civilized Conversation: Education for a World Community* (2013), de Bary describes one of his chief mentors, Ryūsaku Tsunoda, considered the father of Japanese studies at Columbia, whom both de Bary and



ROSS YELSEY

Keene referred to, simply, as *Sensei,* or teacher.

"This unpretentious, undogmatic teacher had no special message, claimed no special authority, demanded no obedience to his person," de Bary wrote. "Like Confucius, he forgot himself in his wholehearted devotion to study. There was never a class or lecture that he did not spend hours in preparation for. There was never a student in whom he did not take a personal interest, though he could be severe as well as sympathetic. There was hardly a day on which he did not make some intellectual discovery for himself and joyfully share it with anyone around the office or library who might understand."

De Bary shared his teacher's devotion and joy and never strayed. His contributions are likely to endure as long as the students of his students continue to impart his love of reason and community, his allegiance to freedom of conscience and expression, and his dedication to civilized discourse within and among the world's many great cultures and traditions.

Former CCT *Editor* **Jamie Katz '72, BUS'80** *contributed a profile of de Bary, "Loyal to His Core," to the Fall 2013 issue.*

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

1944 **Paul S. Sandhaus,** writer, New York City and Santa Fe, N.M., on June 27, 2017.

1945 **Charles M. Greenwald,** retired radiologist, Olmsted Falls, Ohio, on June 21, 2017.

1946 **George K. Levinger,** educator and psychologist, Amherst, Mass., on July 3, 2017.

1948 **Charles P. Simmons,** journalist and literary critic, New York City, on June 1, 2017.

1949 **Rodman B. Funston,** retired advertising and executive recruitment executive, Tubac, Ariz., and New Preston, Conn., on August 1, 2017.

George R. Lenz, retired attorney and rare book dealer, Huntington, N.Y., on August 1, 2017.

1950 **Dan Neuberger,** retired research chemist, Rochester, N.Y., on January 23, 2017.

1952 **Dennis C. Cronin,** retired attorney, Killingworth, Conn., on June 19, 2017.

A. Thomas Houghton, retired educator, Manahawkin, N.J., on May 1, 2017.

1954 **John A. Dauer Jr.,** leather salesman and antique dealer, Wilkesboro, N.C., on August 13, 2017.

1955 **Lary L. Faris,** retired manufacturing processes and quality control expert, Lakeside Marblehead, Ohio, on April 25, 2017.

1956 **Guy T. Castle,** retired academic administrator, Amenia, N.Y., on July 3, 2017.

Robert I. Pearlman, attorney, Madison, N.J., on May 21, 2017.

Kenneth E. Silverman, Colonial American literature expert, New York City, on July 7, 2017.

1957 **Stephen S. Fybish,** weather historian and teacher, New York City, on August 30, 2017.

1958 **Richard H. Bakalor,** attorney, Merrick, N.Y., on July 14, 2017.

Donald J. DeDitius, advertising executive, Dallas, on August 15, 2017.

Esmail Koushanpour, emeritus professor, Mundelein, Ill., on February 12, 2017.

1959 **William U. Bridge,** retired USPS clerk, Yonkers, N.Y., on May 29, 2017.

1961 **Andrew S. Levine,** engineer, Stockbridge, Mass., and Bonita Springs, Fla., on July 19, 2017.

Theodore H. Stanley, anesthesiologist and medical entrepreneur, Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 13, 2017.

1966 **Natale M. Ceglio Jr.,** physicist, Pleasanton, Calif., on July 2, 2017.

1983 **Richard D. Shin,** physician, Burr Ridge, Ill., on March 13, 2017.

1989 **James M. Stephenson,** humanitarian aid worker, Danville, Calif., on July 25, 2017.

butions may be made to St. Thomas More Church (stmchapelhill.org), the American Heart Association (heart.org) or the National MS Society (nationalmssociety.org).

1949

Walter A. Schlotterbeck, retired attorney, Mercer Island, Wash., on February 5, 2017. Born on December 22, 1926, to German immigrants, Schlotterbeck grew up in New York City. He graduated from Brooklyn Tech and earned a degree in 1952 from the Law School. He served in the Navy during WWII. Schlotterbeck worked at GE for 30 years and completed his career as SVP and general counsel for the company and secretary to the Board of Directors. He and his wife of 65 years, Pauline, were members of Holy Spirit Lutheran Church in Kirkland, Wash. His favorite and constant message was a well-known saying: "It ain't what you don't know that gets you into trouble. It's what you know for sure that just ain't so." Schlotterbeck is survived by his wife; children, Susan Schlotterbeck Ross and her husband, Mark, Tom and his wife, Katie, and Paul; seven grandchildren; and his brother Donald. Memorial contributions may be made to Planned Parenthood, Lutheran Community Services Northwest or, as Schlotterbeck would say, "Surprise me!"

1954

Richard E. Wagner, wooden boat expert and educator, Seattle, on April 20, 2017. A native of East Rutherford, N.J., Wagner was trained as an architect, with no sailing experience. But during the mid-1950s, en route to a summer job in San Francisco, he stopped in Seattle. He fell in love with the city, found a floating home on the shores of Lake Union and married his neighbor, the former Colleen Luebke. The Wagners began to collect small watercraft and within a decade owned about two dozen small boats. They realized they could use them to show people — particularly children — how to build, repair and sail wooden boats. Of interest to Wagner was access for the disabled, the homeless, high-school dropouts and others not typically involved with life on the water. Their first major event was a Wooden Boats Festival in 1977; from that, The Center for Wooden Boats was born. Wagner is survived by his wife; sister; two sons; and a grandchild. Memorial contributions may be made to The Center for Wooden Boats: cwb.org, 206-382-2628 or in person to 1010 Valley St., Seattle, WA 98109. Please include "Dick Wagner Memorial" in the memo or notes line.

1957

Sam R. Brice, retired construction business owner, Fairbanks, Alaska, on May 27, 2017. At Columbia, Brice was a noted wrestler and football player and a member of Beta Theta Pi. After graduating with a pre-law degree, Brice served in the Marine Corps until his honorable discharge in 1960 with the rank of captain. He arrived in Alaska after completing his service and helped establish the family business, Brice, Inc., which evolved to become one of the premier contractors in rural Alaska. He loved flying his small plane in Alaska. Brice was a devoted husband, brother, father, uncle and grandfather. He is survived by his wife, Joan; brothers and their spouses, Al and Carol Brice, Thomas and Berta Joan Brice, and Andy and Lois Brice; seven children; and 11 grandchildren. The governor of Alaska attended his funeral. The family asks all to remember the different ways Brice touched people's lives and to honor his memory by emulating his compassion.

Denis B. Frind, attorney, Portland, Ore., on October 6, 2016. Frind was born on May 20, 1935, in New York City. He graduated from Forest Hills H.S., Queens, N.Y., and in 1960 earned a degree from the Law School. He served as a staff judge advocate with the Army at postings in Tehran and New York City. Frind practiced law in New York City at Altieri, Kushner, Miuccio & Frind and, later, at Goetz Fitzpatrick. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Donna; daughters, Karen and her husband, Malcolm Delaney, and Amie and her husband, Adam Getis; son, Steven, and his wife, Leslie Danon; and six grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made in the name of Denis Frind

Norman Dorsen '50, Civil Rights Advocate

Norman Dorsen '50, a passionate human rights advocate who led the American Civil Liberties Union for 15 years and was involved in some of the biggest civil liberties cases of the 20th century, died on July 1, 2017, at his home in New York City. He was 86.

Dorsen's career-long focus on civil liberties was informed by his involvement in the Army-McCarthy Hearings, in 1954, which concerned claims by Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy and his chief counsel, Roy Cohn '46, LAW'47, that Communists had infiltrated the federal government and the Army. In addition, Dorsen argued Supreme Court cases that established juveniles' rights to due process and that acknowledged the rights of children born out of wedlock. He was also one of the first attorneys to argue before the court in favor of abortion rights and gay rights.

Born on September 4, 1930, in New York City, Dorsen was a stellar student and attended Bronx Science, then entered the College at 16 while still living at home. By 23 he had finished Harvard Law School, where he had been an editor on the law review. He later studied international economics as a Fulbright scholar at the London School of Economics and clerked for Justice John Marshall Harlan II on the Supreme Court, where he was remembered by Justice William J. Brennan Jr. as principled and "indefatigably persistent."

After Harvard, Dorsen became a lieutenant in the Army and went up against McCarthy and Cohn. "There is no doubt that being confronted by the McCarthy crowd, and in particular by Roy Cohn, sensitized me to issues of fairness in hearings and other proceedings and the drastic harm that the government can do to free expression," he told *CCT* for a Spring 2013 profile (college.columbia.edu/cct/archive/spring13/alumni_news2).

A key figure at NYU School of Law, where he joined the faculty and became the director of the civil liberties program in 1961, Dorsen's influence was partially responsible for the school's reputation for attracting students and faculty with an interest in public interest law.

In a 1992 tribute, Brennan recalled a case that Dorsen had felt particularly strongly about. "For weeks before and after the case was argued, he pursued my law clerk relentlessly through the halls of the court, peppering him with arguments," Brennan wrote. "Sooner or later, Norm calculated, my clerk would agree, exert his influence and induce me to see reason."

Dorsen demonstrated that perseverance before the court many times as a litigator. In 1967, he helped convince the court that Arizona had acted unconstitutionally after sentencing a 15-year-old to six years in prison for making an obscene phone call. In 1968, he successfully argued that Louisiana could not discriminate against children born out of wedlock.

As general counsel of the ACLU, a role he took on in 1969, becoming president in 1976, Dorsen helped guide the organization through many challenges, including its defense of the rights of Nazis to stage a march through Skokie, Ill., in 1977. The following year, *The New York Times* credited Dorsen with "a magic touch for healing organizational wounds." He also helped build The Arthur Garfield Hays Civil Liberties Program at NYU Law into a powerhouse. In 1995, he became the founding director of the Hauser Global Law School Program at NYU, one of the first programs of its kind.



THOMAS F. FERGUSON '74

In 2000, President Clinton awarded Dorsen the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Award. In a statement introducing the award winners, the White House referred to Dorsen as "a tenacious and outspoken defender of human rights."

Dorsen was predeceased by his wife of 46 years, the former Harriette Koffler, in 2011. He is survived by his daughters, Annie, Jennifer and Caroline; brother, David; and four grandchildren.

— Lisa Palladino

to Volunteer New York!, 220 White Plains Rd., Tarrytown, NY 10591.

1974

Ralph C. Coti, attorney, Hawthorne, N.Y., on September 14, 2016. Born on October 16, 1952, in the Bronx, Coti made his home in Ridgewood, N.J., with his wife, Mary Alice, and son, Peter. Coti earned a B.A. Phi Beta Kappa and then a J.D. and an M.B.A., both in 1977, from the Law School and the Business School, respectively. Admitted to the New York and New Jersey bars, he built a busy and respected practice as one of the last of a dying breed: the generalist attorney in Manhattan. Coti's practice areas included real estate, corporate transactions, trust and estate, litigation, not-for-profit and tax matters. He was a scholar, historian, lover of literature, patriot and contrarian. A devout Roman Catholic and staunch political conservative, Coti was also a gentle and unvaryingly courteous soul. In addition to his wife and son, Coti is survived by his sisters, Valerie Ferlauto and Laura Coti Garrett, and their husbands and children; and his aunts, Fil Magavero and Tecla Martemucci. Memorial contributions may be made to Rosary Hill Home, 600 Linda Ave., Hawthorne, NY 10532.

1989

Cynthia E. Barber-Mingo, software engineer, Westford, Mass., on February 13, 2016. Barber-Mingo was born in Washington, D.C., on February 25. She was educated in New York City public schools from kindergarten through high school, including Bronx Science. At the College, Barber-Mingo majored in computer science and then immersed herself in her chosen career as a software engineer, which began at 16 when she worked at Merrill Lynch in NYC as a merchandising and trading systems summer intern. She also worked for NYNEX, Digital Equipment Corp. and IBM, achieving the title of "Master Inventor" while at IBM. Her name appears on 13 U.S. patents that are the IBM patent portfolio. Barber-Mingo loved to knit and crochet. She is survived by her husband of 25 years, Eric R. Barber-Mingo '90; children Ernest, Mya and Aaron; and mother, Hortense L. Howell-Barber.

1993

Christine Staco, professor, Flushing, N.Y., on March 28, 2017. Staco was born in New York on August 11, 1971, and from a young age demonstrated a yearning to excel and grow. She loved to go on hikes, to read, and to research and understand human behavior, positive energy and spirituality. Staco was educated at Our Lady Queen of Peace, The Mary Louis Academy, Columbia and Cornell. She earned an M.A. in literature. Staco moved often but adapted easily and made friends, living the saying "Home is where the heart is." She is survived by her parents, Clarenns "Boby" Staco and Gabrielle Caillet Staco; sister, Michelle; children, Ama, Felix Jr. and Fernando; nephew, Justin; brother-in-law, Ty; and aunts, uncles, godparents, cousins and friends. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Brain Tumor Society (braintumor.org).

— Lisa Palladino

College Selections and Family Ties

Jeffrey Harrison '80's poem "Higher Education," excerpted from Best American Poetry 2017

HIGHER EDUCATION

Antioch, Berkeley, and Columbia
were the ABC's of colleges
my father said he wouldn't pay for—
breeding grounds for radicalism
he called them, as if their campuses
were giant Petri dishes spawning
toxic cultures. Our own pathology
was pretty toxic at the time, both of us
stubbornly refusing to learn
anything about each other, or
about ourselves for that matter, stuck
in a rudimentary pattern of
defining ourselves as opposites.
I wouldn't even look at Kenyon,
his beloved alma mater, despite
its long tradition as a school for
future poets. I hadn't read a word
of Robert Lowell or James Wright yet,
but I'd read Ginsberg, and the first stop
on my college tour was Columbia,
and that's where I ended up going.
And my father, to his credit, must
have seen it was the right place for me
or at least was unavoidable,
so he let me go, and he paid for it.
And the only price I had to pay
was, when I was home on holidays,
to suffer his barbed commentary
about the very education he
was financing, which ironically
had to do with the core values of
Western Civilization. I can't
remember—is forgiveness one of them?
We both got a C in Forgiveness
but later bumped it up to a B minus
when, in a surprising twist, my son
ended up at Kenyon. My father
took real pleasure in that, though he
was already dying by then. I thought
of him at graduation, how proud
he would have been for his grandson
who, he might have joked, was a better
student than he had ever been—all
our ignorance put aside at least
for that one day of celebration.



SCOTT RUDD

My father really did list Columbia as one of the colleges that was off limits, which only made me want to go there more. He eventually came around, and as a result I had the good fortune of being able to study poetry with Professors Kenneth Koch and David Shapiro while taking the Core and my other classes.

As is often the case with me, I wrote the first few lines without knowing where they were going to lead, but it became clear fairly early that the poem was not so much about college education as about the learning that goes on — or does not go on — between fathers and sons. The fact that my own son had recently graduated from my father's alma mater, Kenyon College, led me to the imagined, temporary reconciliation at the end of the poem.

Jeffrey Harrison '80 *is the author of five books of poetry, including, most recently,* Into Daylight, *which was published by Tupelo Press in 2014 as the winner of the Dorset Prize. "Higher Education" first appeared in* The Yale Review *in 2016 before being included in* Best American Poetry 2017.

CCT ONLINE

GET THE LATEST

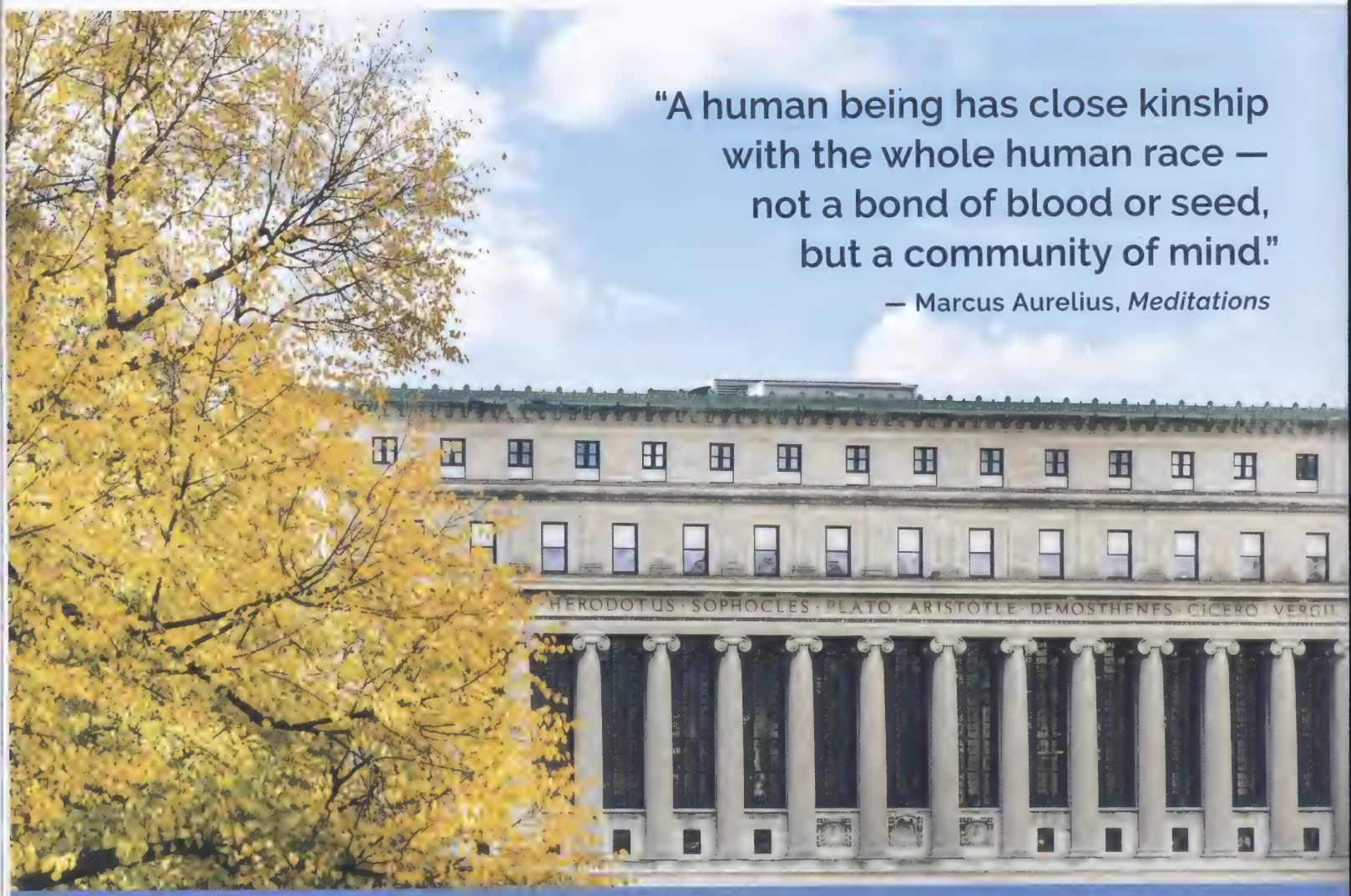
college.columbia.edu/cct

CCT | Columbia College Today

Columbia University
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 724
Burl. VT 05401



"A human being has close kinship with the whole human race — not a bond of blood or seed, but a community of mind."

— Marcus Aurelius, *Meditations*

SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY

Help us invest in a comprehensive approach for our students that nurtures intellectual activity, emotional and physical well-being and life skills that prepare them for a future we cannot yet imagine.

college.columbia.edu/campaign

CORE TO COMMENCEMENT
COLUMBIA COLLEGE

CCT

Columbia College Today

Winter 2017–18

MORGAN PARKER '10
ON BEAUTY AND BEYONCÉ

A DIRECTOR IN D.C.
STEPHANIE STEBICH '88 LEADS THE SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM

TOUCHDOWN!
LIONS FOOTBALL BRINGS THE FIRE



Changing MINDS

Why campuses nationwide are prioritizing their students' mental health



MICHAEL EDMONSON CC'20

CORE TO COMMENCEMENT

COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Help us build a vibrant community that strengthens the past, present and future of Columbia College.

GET INVOLVED TODAY!

As a Mentor

Join the new **Odyssey Mentoring Program** and provide support and guidance to students and young alumni, while also expanding your alumni network.

As an Ambassador

Interview applicants to the College by representing Columbia wherever you are. (Each interview takes less than an hour!)

As a Leader

Volunteer with one of our many alumni committees to help shape programs and activities for students and fellow alumni.

As a Supporter

All gifts to the **Columbia College Fund** support alma mater through the **Core to Commencement** campaign.

college.columbia.edu/campaign/volunteer - ccalumni@columbia.edu

features



20

Under Pressure

Anxiety on campus is a national concern. How are colleges supporting students' emotional well-being?

By Alexis Boncy SOA'11



26

The Work of Art

Stephanie Stebich '88 boldly steps into her new role as a Smithsonian director.

By Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09



30

Think Ink

Publisher Louis Rossetto '71 kicks off a new book venture — with an old-fashioned twist.

By Boris Kachka '97, JRN'98

Cover: Illustration by Scott Bakal

Contents

departments

3 Message from Dean James J. Valentini
How the College is prioritizing student mental health and wellness.

4 Letters to the Editor

6 Around the Quads
The launch of the Eric H. Holder Initiative for Civil and Political Rights.

16 Roar, Lion, Roar
Lions football catches fire, finishing with an 8–2 record; celebrating the 1967–68 kings of Ivy League basketball.

34 Columbia Forum: *There Are More Beautiful Things Than Beyoncé*
Morgan Parker '10's new book of poetry is "a love letter to black women."

*alumni*news

38 Message from CCAA President Michael Behringer '89
How lucky we are to be Columbians right now!

39 Alumni in the News

40 Bookshelf
Bed-Stuy is Burning, by Brian Platzer '04; an excerpt from our online "Like Minds" conversation with author Paul Auster '69 and publisher Dan Simon '79.

42 Lions
Juliette Finzi Hart '96; Alicia Yoon '04; David Heim '68

45 Class Notes
Just Married!

84 Obituaries
Ray Robinson '41

88 The Last Word
Tim Towler '77 is reunited with his College class ring two decades after it went missing.

Now on **CCT Online**

PRINT EXTRAS

- Homecoming 2017 Facebook album
- Kenny Ridwan '21's acting demo reel
- Juliette Finzi-Hart '96's virtual tour of the Santa Monica beach

Like Columbia College Alumni
facebook.com/alumnicc

View Columbia College Alumni photos
instagram.com/alumniofcolumbiacollege

Follow **@Columbia_CCAA**

Join the Columbia College Alumni network
college.columbia.edu/alumni/linkedin

college.columbia.edu/cct

THE LATEST

TAKE FIVE | DEC. 1

"How many followers would Julius Caesar or Pliny the Elder have on Instagram?"

— Director and photographer **Mike Mellia '02**

LION'S DEN | NOV. 16

"These two [Thanksgiving] celebrations at opposite ends of the Black experience centered my identity and made me the cook I am today. The differences between them could be tasted in the macaroni and cheese."

— Food blogger **Robyn Burgess '10,** from "Rewriting the Rules of Mac and Cheese"

LIKE MINDS | NOV. 28

"I've never been able to compose on a keyboard of any kind. I still don't have email. I don't have a cellphone. I'm making a stand. I want to be a dinosaur."

— Author **Paul Auster '69**

Message from the Dean

The Importance of Student Wellness

Since I became dean in 2011, I have been hosting "Dine with Deantini" lunches — opportunities for groups of students to join me for lunchtime conversations about their lives, their intellectual pursuits and what they like best (and least) about Columbia College. At many of those gatherings, students have talked about the stresses of college life and what kinds of institutional support they need for their well-being.

This is not just a Columbia issue — and it is not new. As this issue's cover story explains, nearly a quarter of college students nationwide experience anxiety, and institutions of higher education have been grappling with how to better prioritize student health and wellness.

Columbia has been focusing attention on our wellness efforts for a long time and we have a strong system in place, including professional Residential Life staff and student RAs in all of our residence halls; academic, study abroad, fellowship, financial aid and student organization advisers; and access to University resources such as Columbia Health, and Counseling and Psychological Services. Even so, we continually strive to enhance and expand our support.

In fall 2016, the College created a director of student wellness position, which focuses on the one job that the title clearly conveys. Last spring, we augmented gatekeeper training to help all College staff — including me — recognize and respond effectively when students are in distress. And each year we update our New Student Orientation Program to create more ways for students to find community as soon as they arrive on campus and to prepare them for satisfying and rewarding lives at Columbia.

In recent years, we have also expanded support — including creating a Deans' Student Assistance Fund for unanticipated personal expenses — for students who might face additional challenges. Columbia Dining is now open 24 hours and during all school breaks to ensure students have a friendly and comfortable place to go when they want to be with others. We provide subsidized travel to attend scholarship interviews and awards ceremonies, as well as funding for unpaid and low-paid internships and research opportunities. Since academic year 2016–17, we have been waiving our fees for students on financial aid who take laboratory, language, film, writing and visual arts courses to allow students to choose the courses that interest them most without regard to cost. We also offer graduation caps and gowns at no cost to students with the highest financial need, and provide funding to make Senior Week more accessible to all students.



SCOTT RUDD

Dean James J. Valentini speaking at Low Rotunda in November.

And during the past few months, we have been working intensely with The Jed Foundation, the nonprofit founded by Phillip Satow '63 and his wife, Donna Satow GS'65, and directed by John A. MacPhee '89, PH'12, to review, assess and enhance our campus wellness efforts. This past fall, members of our Mental Health Steering Group, which includes students, faculty and staff, spent a half-day with JED representatives and heard their evaluation of our self-assessment materials. JED found that we have many effective programs and policies, but identified several areas where they could help us to develop, expand or strengthen our efforts. We are working with JED to develop a strategic plan to accomplish that. I will keep you posted on our efforts.



James J. Valentini
Dean

CCT | Columbia College Today

VOLUME 45 NUMBER 2
WINTER 2017–18

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Alexis Boncy SOA'11

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Lisa Palladino

DEPUTY EDITOR
Jill C. Shomer

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09

FORUM EDITOR
Rose Kernochan BC'82

EDITORIAL INTERN
Canwen Xu '20

ART DIRECTOR
Eson Chan

Published quarterly by the Columbia College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development for alumni, students, faculty, parents and friends of Columbia College.

ASSOCIATE DEAN, COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS
Bernice Tsai '96

ADDRESS
Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 4th Fl.
New York, NY 10025

PHONE
212-851-7852

EMAIL
cct@columbia.edu

WEB
college.columbia.edu/cct

ISSN 0572-7820

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not reflect official positions of Columbia College or Columbia University.

© 2017 Columbia College Today
All rights reserved.

MIX
Paper from responsible sources
FSC® C022085

Letters to the Editor



PHYLLIS KATZ

A Lion-Hearted Escapade

While I was reading the article on the Big "C" in the Fall 2017 *CCT* ["Roar, Lion, Roar"], I was surprised to find my own name staring back at me from the page with the allegation that I had written an "outraged" letter in the 1980s deriding the repainting of the "C" as a "harebrained stunt."

I have no recollection of having written such a letter, but if I did I hereby wish to retract it. This was clearly not a harebrained stunt but rather a Lion-hearted escapade, worthy of all praise and admiration. In this case, what was written in the 1980s stays in the 1980s.

Edward R. Green '79, SEAS'83
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Ah, Memories

After reading "Oh, Say Can You 'C'?" in the Fall 2017 issue, I find myself reflecting. During 1956–57, I was a 16-year-old, 115-lb. freshman coxswain. As a part of my crew "initiation" — sitting on a narrow board — I was lowered to, and painted (simply using a bucket and brush), a long segment of the "C" equal to my arm span. One row was quite enough! My children, grandchildren and friends have been suitably impressed on seeing the site.

Ah, memories ...

Michael L. Gelfand '60, PS'64
Niskayuna, N.Y.

Regarding the Big "C," I joined the freshman crew team in Fall 1957 and Spring 1958, and continued for the next two years (1958–59 and 1959–60). The "C" was complete when I started. I think some refurbishment painting occurred in 1960 or 1961. I did not participate in any painting, but the "C" was awesome from the time I started. It was visible from Baker Field, but it was just across the Harlem River from the boat dock and Columbia boathouse. I saw it every day as we launched our shells and as we came to dock every evening.

Also, a coda to the item about the closing of West 116th Street [in "Alumni News"]: Uniting the Columbia campus continued in 1962–63 with the "bridge" from the main campus to the Law School over Amsterdam Avenue between West 116th and 117th streets. Interestingly, the concrete for the supporting pillars did not meet specifications and jackhammers had to break the concrete out of the reinforcing rod so that the supporting pillars could

Contact Us

CCT welcomes letters from readers about articles in the magazine but cannot print or personally respond to all letters received. Letters express the views of the writers and not *CCT*, the College or the University. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. All letters are subject to editing for space, clarity and *CCT* style. Please direct letters for publication "to the editor" via mail or online: **college.columbia.edu/cct/contactus.**

be poured again. I worked in an office on the east side of Amsterdam between West 117th and 118th streets. I lived in an apartment on West 113th Street between Broadway and Amsterdam. It was a long, hot, dusty, noisy summer!

CCT staff: You do generate a lot of memories and a lot of thoughts!

Bernie Muench '61, SEAS'62, BUS'65
Beverly Hills, Mich.

I appreciated your excellent piece on the great story of West 116th Street ["Alumni News," Fall 2017]. I spent some time shortly after the street's closing as a guest at a private party where Mayor Robert Wagner Jr. was present. In my conversation with him I spoke words of appreciation for his role in the dramatic event. Wagner, a Yale alumnus, responded to me warmly by calling upon our respective school colors: "It was just a case of Dark Blue helping Light Blue." His wonderful explanation of his good deed has clung to me all my long life.

Henry F. Graff GSAS'49
Professor Emeritus of History
New York City

A Bold Statement

Kudos on the latest [Fall 2017] issue of *CCT,* which is one of the best I've seen, in terms of graphic design. I especially liked the concept of focusing on one specific person for the cover, which is compelling (I think you should do that every time!). It is a simple concept, but people, after all, are what the alumni magazine is about, and by showcasing one individual it makes a bold, strong statement. I think it is more effective than showing multiple people, or a photo of campus, or a picture of NYC or whatever — all of which are less personal.

Time magazine, of course, on a much grander scale, used this concept for decades and it was an effective way to make the entire country suddenly seem intimate through one face on the cover.

Adam Van Doren '84, GSAPP'89
New York City





An image from the project "Signs of Your Identity," by Daniella Zalcman '09.

Exposing Buried Pasts

When the past is toxic waste we must not bury it, but rather we must keep seeing it long enough to learn not to make more of it. I thank Daniella Zalcman '09 — and Rose Kernochan BC'82 and *CCT* — for unburying and examining the violently silenced stories of Canada's genocidal Indian residential schools ["Columbia Forum," Summer 2017].

As Zalcman's double exposures starkly, luminously mask survivors' faces with brick walls, broken glass and trembling leaves, the subjects' singly gazing eyes bespeak knowing and living beyond arrangements for death.

When it comes to unhealthily buried toxic history of this continent, there is so much yet to unearth and face. California's Gold Rush genocide of Indigenous peoples proceeded apace as Abraham Lincoln gave his second inaugural address — that most extraordinary presidential naming of the robbery and brutality foundational to American slavery and the very development of the nation. But in sharing his realization, in exposing this truth, Lincoln simultaneously, implicitly endorsed — through his silence about the Indigenous blood flowing at his back — the ongoing American genocide of Indian peoples under his watch at that very moment.

This history has only begun to be uncovered and considered (helped greatly by the recent scholarship of Brian Lindsay, Andrés Reséndez and Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, to name a few), but it provides a welcome mirror to recognize our national depredations, both past and present, potentially motivating us to change our ways. By not turning away, not plugging our ears or stopping our noses to the horrors of Canada in the 20th century, California from the 1840s to 1870s, and after, and Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Palestine, Yemen and Puerto Rico today, settler and colonial and neocolonial imperialism need not remain our destiny. To choose a new way, we must fully see where we stand. As "Columbians," perhaps we have a special responsibility here: Our very namesake was a founder of genocide.

Jonas LaMattery-Brownell '98
Oakland, Calif.



RHAPSODY IN (COLUMBIA) BLUE

The Lions rejoice after defeating Penn 34–31 at Homecoming 2017 on October 14.

MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS


COLUMBIA
95
98



BEN HIDER

New Holder Initiative Tackles the "Quiet Prejudice of Inaction"



BEN HIDER

At top, Alondra Nelson, professor of sociology (far left), moderates "Living the Core and Advancing Justice," a discussion with (left to right) Ai-jen Poo '96, executive director of the Domestic Workers Alliance; Danielle Allen, director of Harvard's Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics; former U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, LAW'76; and Bernard E. Harcourt, the Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law and professor of political science.

On November 17, Columbia College announced the Eric H. Holder Initiative for Civil and Political Rights. Named for former U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, LAW'76, the Holder Initiative will carve out a distinctive experience for undergraduate students through a focus on historical, contemporary and future visions of justice. An anonymous donation of $10 million has put the initiative halfway toward its $20 million goal of becoming an institute.

"From the moment Eric and I discussed this idea two years ago, we knew that the initiative would build on the foundation of our Core course Contemporary Civilization, in which students engage with fundamental issues of justice, of citizenship, and of rights and responsibilities," Dean James J. Valentini said, speaking at an event at Low Library celebrating the launch of the initiative. "Today marks the culmination of our combined commitment to provide College students opportunities to turn their intellectual learning into action that will advance civil and political rights for all citizens."

The initiative will sponsor courses, public events, student internships and fellowships that extend the Core Curriculum's themes and questions regarding justice and civil and political rights. Discouraging retreat into what Holder calls "the quiet prejudice of inaction," the initiative will encourage students to "live the Core" by supporting their civic action on and beyond campus.

Initial support for the initiative came in part from a three-year grant from the Ford Foundation, whose mission is to seek to reduce poverty and injustice, strengthen democratic values, promote international cooperation and advance human achievement.

"Columbia College generated in me a real desire to explore the underlying truths to the human rights issues that have confronted our nation for so many years," said Holder, the third longest-serving U.S. attorney general and the first African-American to hold the office. "It is my hope that the initiative will be

a means by which — through research, dialogue and practical experience — these issues can be understood and, most importantly, real progress made. I am especially excited that students will be an integral part of the effort and will carry the work of the initiative forward for years to come." A former University trustee, Holder is also a 1996 recipient of a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement and the 2015 recipient of the Alexander Hamilton Medal.

Among its first works, the initiative will sponsor The American Voter Project, a six-part series that will explore the state of voting in the United States today. It also will offer a new capstone course during the Spring 2018 semester, "Power, Rights, and Social Change: Advancing Justice," which will bridge the Core and contemporary issues of social justice. And it will offer undergraduates access to a summer internship program, which provides financial support for work in civic and community engagement projects at Columbia and other educational institutions, and with NGOs, businesses and community groups.

"Columbia College generated in me a real desire to explore the underlying truths to the human rights issues that have confronted our nation for so many years."

— Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, LAW'76

Bernard E. Harcourt, the Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law, professor of political science and director of the Columbia Center for Contemporary Critical Thought, will be the initiative's executive director. At the launch, along with Holder, Harcourt participated in the panel "Living the Core and Advancing Justice." The conversation was moderated by Alondra Nelson, professor of sociology and president of the Social Science Research Council, and also featured MacArthur "genius" grant recipients Ai-jen Poo '96, executive director of the National Domestic Workers Alliance, and Danielle Allen, the James Bryant Conant University Professor at Harvard and director of Harvard's Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics.

To learn more about the initiative, go to holder.college.columbia.edu.

Damon Rich '97 Named 2017 MacArthur "Genius"


JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T. MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

When designer and urban planner Damon Rich '97 received the call from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation telling him he'd been awarded one of this year's 24 fellowships, he didn't pick up the phone.

"These days, you don't really answer strange numbers," he says with a laugh. "The number kept coming so eventually I picked up, and it started like all those calls you wish you hadn't picked up: '*Congratulations*!'" Weeks later, Rich says receiving the award still feels "pretty unreal."

The MacArthur fellowships, also known as "genius grants," award each recipient $625,000, paid quarterly over five years, as "seed money for intellectual, social and artistic endeavors." The foundation lauded Rich's "vivid and witty strategies to design and build places that are more democratic and accountable to their residents." The award has no reporting requirements and no applications; because nominations are made to the foundation confidentially, Rich does not know who suggested him. "[I] have to treat everyone as though they are my guardian angel," he says.

Rich is a co-founder and partner at Hector, an urban design, planning and civic arts studio in Newark, N.J., and is also an adjunct associate professor at the Architecture School. "In architecture [the fellowship] has always been a huge deal," he says. "When I was in school, Liz Diller and Rick Scofidio [of the firm Diller Scofidio + Renfro] were recipients, and the message was: 'You can see that architecture is important because they got this award.'"

After working in the public sector as chief urban designer and director of planning for the city of Newark from 2008 to 2015, Rich has found that Hector's work in the private sector can have its difficulties. "Having the ability to put together complex clients and coalitions that actually produce the most beautiful and interesting work is a little more challenging," he says. "So the foundation support is a dose of freedom as we try to figure out how to make those coalitions work. They are critical to the kinds of success that we and the people we work with want to see."

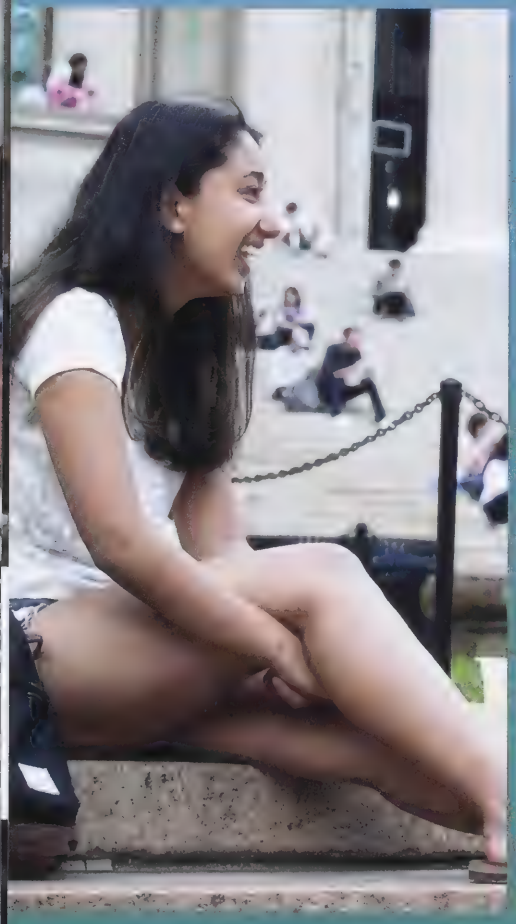
New Stephen Donaldson Lounge Opens

On September 27, more than 100 students, faculty, staff and alumni gathered in Schapiro Hall to celebrate the opening of a new lounge for LGBTQ students and to commemorate the anniversary of the dedication of the original Stephen Donaldson Lounge in Furnald Hall. Both the original and the new spaces are named in honor of "Stephen Donaldson," the alias of Robert Martin '69, who founded Columbia's then-named Student Homophile League in 1966. In 1971, students began unofficially meeting in the Furnald basement and, in 1972, the group lobbied for and was granted a permanent meeting space, making it the first LGBTQ student lounge on a college campus. In 1996, the Furnald space was renamed the Stephen Donaldson Lounge. School of General Studies Dean Peter Awn, who was present at the 1996 naming of the original lounge, joined students in cutting the ribbon at the new space.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

PROGRAMS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

DESIGNED FOR OUTSTANDING STUDENTS GRADES 9-12







Give your child an Ivy League experience this summer.

Apply early for best course selection.

COLLEGE EDGE PROGRAMS

- Hundreds of Columbia course options for college credit
- Specialized advising and mentoring
- Study alongside Columbia College students

SUMMER: (6 week)
Session 1: May 21–June 29
Session 2: July 2–August 10

GAP YEAR:
Summer-Fall, Spring-Summer, Fall-Spring

ACADEMIC YEAR:
Fall & Spring Semesters

SUMMER IMMERSION PROGRAMS

- 60+ Intensive courses available
- Credentials including evaluation letters from instructors
- Full calendar of lectures, community outreach, and more

NEW YORK CITY: (3 week)
Session 1: June 25–July 13
Session 2: July 17–August 3

BARCELONA:
July 1 – 21

Apply now at **SPS.COLUMBIA.EDU/HS18**

the Essentials

Zoë Crossland



JILL SHOMER

As a mid-term study break on Halloween, Associate Professor of Anthropology Zoë Crossland took some of her students to see *Night of the Living Dead* at a Washington Heights theater — a cheeky outing for a class called "Corpse Life." The popular undergraduate course (there's a waiting list!) takes on the history of death and the practices around human remains, one of Crossland's specializations. As a historical archaeologist, her focus has been on Madagascar and the 19th-century relationships between the island's highland natives and Welsh missionaries. On an unseasonably chilly November day, Crossland spoke with *CCT* about the rituals around dying, the mountains of Madagascar and the excitement of excavation.

CROSSLAND IS FROM the Cotswolds in England, near Bath. In the United Kingdom, students make a decision about their major while applying for college; Crossland enjoyed studying history but thought archaeology would allow her to be outdoors more. Before starting university at Cambridge in 1990, she spent a year volunteering on digs and traveled to Peru. She loved the work. "Archaeology is an incredibly expansive discipline," she says. "It's impossible to reach the limit of what you can do."

AS A GRADUATE STUDENT at the University of Michigan, Crossland planned to return to South America to do fieldwork, but after taking a class with renowned archaeology professor Henry T. Wright, she volunteered to work with him in Madagascar. As she says, "That was it." She surveyed with Malagasy archaeologists and students, looking for traces of fortifications and remains from earlier civilizations. Crossland earned an M.A. in 1995 and a Ph.D. in 2001, both from Michigan.

HER PARTNER, BRIAN BOYD, also works at the College, as the director of museum anthropology. After they met at an archaeology conference, Crossland went to Wales, where Boyd was teaching, to work on her dissertation. She soon realized she was living a village away from where the first missionaries to highland Madagascar had been raised and trained. "In the 19th century, these four missionaries established the Protestant church in Madagascar, and they were incredibly influential," she says. Crossland applied for a post-doc fellowship at Cambridge to further study the relationships between the missionaries and the Malagasy, and in 2014 she wrote the book *Ancestral Encounters in Highland Madagascar: Material Signs and Traces of the Dead.*

IN 2006, A FRIEND from Michigan who was teaching at Barnard let Crossland know there was a visiting professorship open at the College. She applied and got the job, leaving the Welsh countryside for the city. "When you walk out of the archaeology department in Wales, you see hills and sheep," she says. "I wondered how we would manage in New York! But we got here and we just loved it." She became an assistant professor the following year.

"CORPSE LIFE: Anthropological Histories of the Dead" is Crossland's largest undergraduate class. The theme is how people in other times and places approach death through practical activities and mortuary ritual. "We examine archaeological evidence of sacrifice, relics and mummies, drawing on anthropological literature," she says.

FORENSIC ARCHAEOLOGY and the treatment of skeletons as forensic evidence is a subject Crossland became interested in as an undergraduate. "I went to Argentina to volunteer on an excavation; the student who met me at the airport was working in Buenos Aires exhuming remains of people who were 'disappeared' during the Dirty War in the '70s," she says. The student brought Crossland to the grave site to see the work in progress. "Seeing something like that is pretty forceful," she says. Crossland is working on a new book, *The Speaking Corpse,* which explores the establishment of the forensic corpse and the ways in which bodies are portrayed in situations of dissection or autopsy.

IN SPRING 2017, Crossland taught the class "Science and Art in Archaeological Illustration (AI)." She got a grant from Columbia's Center for Science & Society to hire an artist friend, Tracy Molis SOA'11, to teach with her. "I wanted to train the students in techniques of AI, but I also wanted them to think more broadly about the work of representation and how certain conventions became sedimented in practice," Crossland says.

"ONE OF THE THINGS I wanted the students to explore in the illustration class was, 'Why, when we describe our archaeological results, do we rely on text? Why not more imagery?'" she says. [View the students' artwork at scienceartarchaeology.wordpress.com.] "Some of the excitement evaporates when a found object gets described in a dry, clinical way," Crossland adds. "And it's incredible, when you scrape back the dirt and realize you're the first person to see this thing since somebody dropped it hundreds or thousands of years previously."

— Jill C. Shomer

In Memoriam



JOE PINEIRO

University Professor **Ronald C.D. Breslow,** a trailblazing chemist who led the creation of the field of biomimetic chemistry and developed the cancer drug Zolinza, died on October 25, 2017. He was 86. Breslow was a Columbia College instructor for more than 60 years and was instrumental in the College's move to coeducation. Born on March 14, 1931, Breslow grew up in Rahway, N.J., and earned an A.B. in chemistry, an A.M. in biochemistry and a Ph.D. in organic chemistry, all from Harvard. He did his doctoral research with renowned chemist R.B. Woodward and spent a postdoctoral year in Cambridge, England, as a National Research Council Fellow with Nobel Prize-winning chemist Lord Alexander Robertus Todd before coming to Columbia in 1956. Breslow became the Samuel Latham Mitchill Professor of Chemistry and chaired the Department of Chemistry 1976–79. In 1992, he was named University Professor, the University's highest academic honor, granted in recognition of exceptional scholarly merit and contributions to Columbia. Breslow was the 1969 recipient of the Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching, a 1980 recipient of a Great Teacher Award, a 2016 recipient of an Alexander Hamilton Medal and the 2016 recipient of the Michael Pupin Medal for Service to the Nation in Science, Technology or Engineering. A memorial service was held in NYC in October.

Read more about Breslow: college.columbia.edu/alumni/content/ronald-breslow.



Danielle Haase-Dubosc BC'59, GSAS'69, executive director of Reid Hall, now the Columbia Global Center | Paris, 1990–2017, and director, 1976–90, died in Paris on November 12, 2017. Haase-Dubosc was also associate provost of the University 1987–2010. Born in Paris on April 19, 1939, Haase-Dubosc earned a doctorate in 17th-century comparative literature from GSAS. As an assistant professor of French and Romance philology at Barnard, she was asked in 1975 to manage Columbia programs at Reid Hall. At the time, the 18th-century Paris building, left to Columbia in 1964, had not been well integrated into the Columbia curriculum and its sale was actively envisaged. Haase-Dubosc set up programs of study in a wide range of subjects. A believer in cultural immersion, she had her students admitted to Paris university courses and eased transitions with special mentoring. The success of these programs spared Reid Hall from sale and enriched generations of Columbia students intellectually and culturally. Haase-Dubosc, who was bilingual and held joint citizenship, dealt adroitly with both French and American academia. She maintained an active scholarly life as well, publishing and speaking on literary and gender subjects. She is survived by her husband, Dominique Dubosc; brother, Gerald Haase-Dubosc; children, Oliver Gloag and Vanessa Delvaux; stepdaughters, Sophie Dubosc and Anna Dubosc; and three grandchildren. A memorial service was held at Reid Hall in December. A service will be held on Columbia's campus at a date to be announced.

Read more about Haase-Dubosc: french.columbia.edu/content/danielle-haase-dubosc-1939-2017.



CHAR SMULLYAN GS'98

Peter V. Johnson, who worked at Columbia for more than 35 years and most recently was director of enrollment group special projects and special assistant to the dean of undergraduate admissions and financial aid for Columbia College and Columbia Engineering, died on November 6, 2017. Johnson's career in higher education began in 1971 at his alma mater, Earlham College, where he worked with the Upward Bound program. He was at Hampshire College for a decade, serving in Residential Life before beginning his career in college admissions. He came to Columbia in 1982 to be assistant dean of student affairs for the College; through seven years in that role, he established his reputation as an educational leader and mentor. Service to others was the hallmark of his 27 years in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, especially in his commitment to lifting up under-resourced and under-represented students. In 2016, Johnson received the Black Alumni Council Heritage Award, which honors individuals who have made considerable contributions to the community and to their respective fields. Johnson was a fervent supporter of the Lions for many years. As an athletics liaison, he worked closely with coaches, supported prospective athletes through the admissions process and was Columbia's representative to the Ivy League. Johnson is survived by his wife, Jo, and daughters, Zenzele Johnson and Joya Powell '01. A memorial service was held on campus in December.

Read more about Johnson: college.columbia.edu/news/columbia-college-mourns-loss-peter-v-johnson.



WILL CSAPLAR '57, BUS'58 POSTCARD COLLECTION, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

Did*You*Know?

Alma Mater Used To Be Gold

Alma Mater has watched over campus from her perch on Low Steps for more than 100 years. Created by sculptor Daniel Chester French, she was a gift to Columbia from Harriette Goelet, the widow of Robert Goelet (Class of 1860). But *Alma Mater* looks different today than she did upon her installation in 1903, when the four-ton sculpture arrived with gold layered over her bronze. The exterior chipped off over the years, leaving behind the patina we see today. In 1962, *Alma* was briefly painted a gleaming bronze, but the color was so unpopular it was removed just four weeks later.



Support *CCT!*

Columbia College Today has always been your magazine — the place to read about the incredible achievements and remarkable stories of College alumni, faculty and students. Please consider visiting **bit.ly/2AEghmj** to make a tax-deductible contribution.



DENVER BLEVINS '21

Kenny Ridwan '21

By Nathalie Alonso '08

In the fifth grade, cast as Belle's father in his elementary school's production of *Beauty and the Beast*, **Kenny Ridwan '21** first became smitten by the stage. Within two years of that performance, he had found an agent to represent him and moved with his family from the Seattle area to Los Angeles to pursue acting professionally.

"That process of learning my lines and then performing them on stage made me fall in love with acting," he recalls.

Ridwan's first gigs were commercials — he has appeared in ads for Nintendo, AT&T and Exxon — but he soon made his way into sitcoms. His biggest role to date has been on *The Goldbergs*, an ABC show set in the 1980s that follows the daily lives of the title family through the eyes of its young son (the show also features George Segal '55). Ridwan has played the main character's best friend, David Kim, since 2014 — he's appeared in more than 40 episodes — and considers it his favorite role to date because of the extent to which he's been able to develop it.

"With more episodes, your character gets more fleshed out and you're able to add more of the backstory," says Ridwan, who also had a recurring supporting role as an amateur musician on Nickelodeon's *The Thundermans*, a sitcom about a family of superheroes attempting to lead normal lives in a fictional town.

The third of five children and the only member of his family in show business, Ridwan has put auditioning on hold as he adjusts to life at the College; however, he travels to L.A. once every three or four weeks to film new episodes of *The Goldbergs*. He plans to use his time at Columbia to explore other interests — he's pondering a major in political science — but sees himself eventually returning to L.A. to continue his career in the entertainment industry.

Ridwan, who also has appeared on *The McCarthys, Modern Family, Bones, House of Lies* and other shows, is open to directing or producing but would ideally prefer to remain in front of the cameras. "There's something really special about making someone laugh or inducing any kind of emotion in anybody," he says. "That's what's kept me acting."

CCT Print Extras

To view Ridwan's demo reel, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.

Nathalie Alonso '08, *from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website.*

CCAA Launches Alumni Mentoring Program

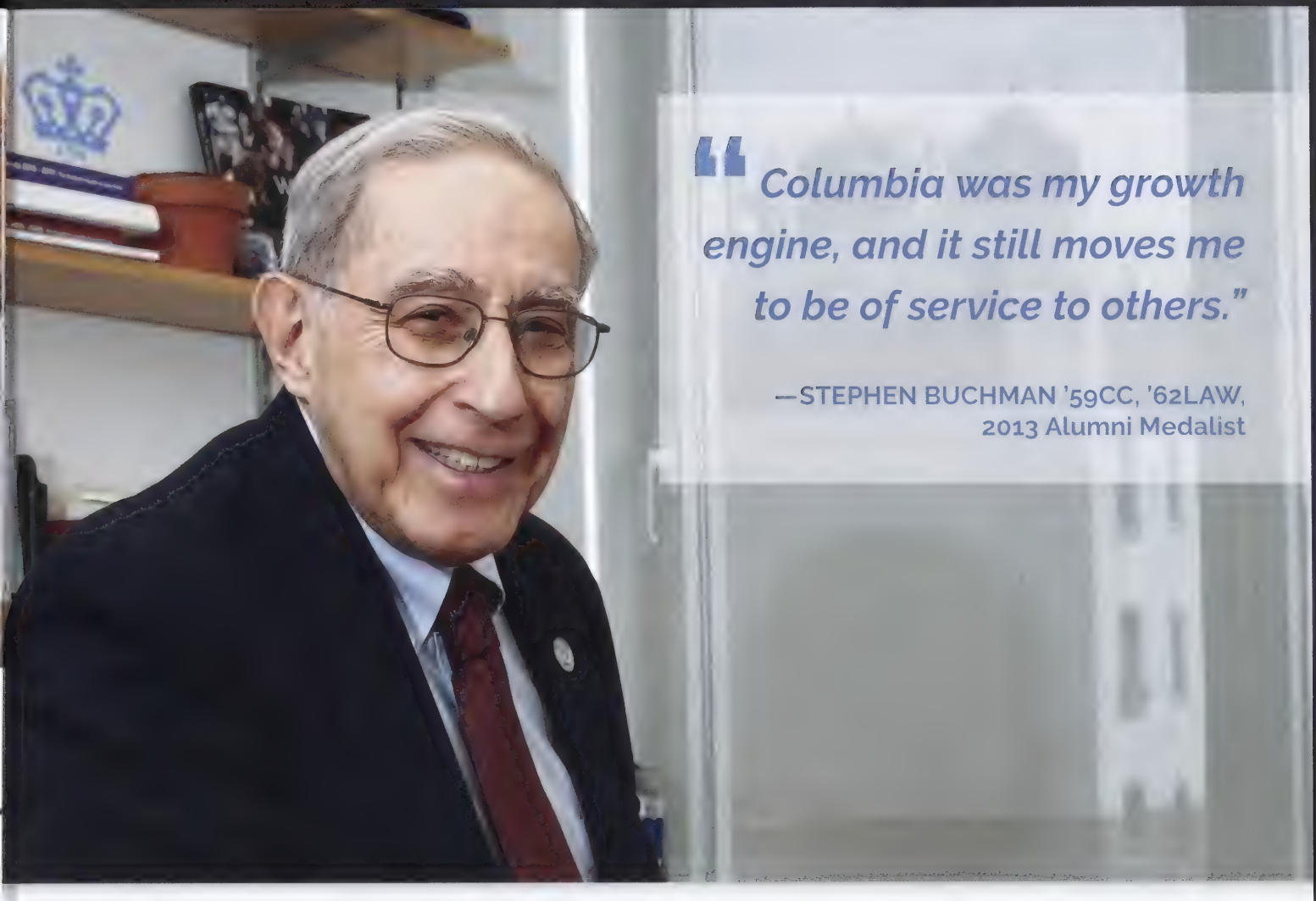
The Columbia College Alumni Association has launched the Odyssey Mentoring Program, which offers students and alumni an easy way to connect for career guidance, life advice, networking and more.

Given the College's network of more than 50,000 alumni worldwide, Odyssey — the name is a nod to the Lit Hum anchor text, in which the goddess Athena disguises herself as the character Mentor in order to advise Odysseus' son — aims to engage alumni mentors across all industries, backgrounds, perspectives and locations. "I believe that our alumni are one of the greatest resources that Columbia College has. I want students to be able to learn from their extraordinary and diverse experiences," says Dean James J. Valentini.

Odyssey is flexible; participants can engage in long-term mentoring relationships or short and informal connections. To start, students and alumni create a profile on the Odyssey website; Odyssey then recommends connections based on profile similarities, though members also can search for mentoring matches based on their interests, region, major, gender, profession and student activities.

Odyssey is powered by the mentees, who choose whom to message or request mentorship from. Young alumni have the option of being both mentees and mentors, and all alumni can use the community to expand their professional networks.

As a complement to the online community, events will be held throughout the school year to connect alumni and students in person. Since the program launched in September, more than 1,200 people have created profiles but students outnumber alumni by two to one. More alumni volunteers are urgently needed; to sign up, go to odyssey.college.columbia.edu.



Gifts to Columbia College. Income for life.

When Steve Buchman recalls the major pivot points in his life, attending Columbia College and joining the fencing team top the list. His giving reflects that. In addition to annual gifts and a gift in his will supporting Columbia College, Steve has established several tax-advantaged **charitable gift annuities** that will pay him income for life and then support the Buchman Family Scholarship at Columbia College and Columbia Athletics.

Find a gift that suits your goals. Call the Office of Gift Planning at 800-338-3294 or email us at gift.planning@columbia.edu to discover ways to support Columbia College.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE FUND

CORE TO COMMENCEMENT
COLUMBIA COLLEGE

ROAR, LION, ROAR

Football's Remarkable Reversal: Lions Go 8–2, Finish Second in Ivies

Al Bagnoli came to Columbia in February 2015 vowing to "make football fun again" and create "a cultural change." After three seasons, the veteran coach is well on his way. The Lions, just 3–7 overall and 2–5 in the Ivy League a year ago, enjoyed their best season in more than two decades by compiling an 8–2 record and a 5–2 mark in Ivy play, matching the record of the 1996 team and earning Ivy Coach of the Year honors for Bagnoli. Columbia tied with Dartmouth for second place in the league, one game behind Yale, after posting only its fifth winning record since the league was formed in 1956.

The joyous throng of players, students, alumni and fans who frolicked on the field following Columbia's dramatic 34–31 overtime win over Penn at Homecoming on October 14 is evidence that there's fun to be found on autumn Saturdays at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium. As for reversing the culture of losing that had vexed so many of Bagnoli's predecessors, team co-captain and defensive back Landon Baty '18 says, "For so long, [football] has been a blemish on Columbia University. But now, it's something to take pride in."

Columbia football has undergone an epic transformation in the four years Baty and his classmates have been on Morningside Heights. The Lions were 0–10 in Baty's freshman year, part of a losing streak that lasted 22 games, and were outscored by a whopping 389–103.

Enter Bagnoli, with a commitment for a fundamental change in the program from President Lee C. Bollinger and the University's Board of Trustees. The budget was increased and more convenient housing was made available for the football staff. A year-round practice facility was created by erecting a bubble over the soccer field, complementing the training and learning facilities at The Campbell Sports Center. Steps also were taken to integrate the football program with the Morningside community; several Friday walk-throughs were held on South Field and free bus service was provided from campus not only to home games but also to several road contests.



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Anders Hill '18 led football's renaissance, setting a Columbia season record for passing accuracy.

Despite all that, no one expected the Lions to start the 2017 season by reeling off six consecutive victories. The highlight was the Homecoming game against Penn before a crowd of 13,081, the largest for a Lions home game since 2003. Columbia trailed 21–7 in the fourth quarter, then scored three touchdowns to take the lead, only to have Penn come back and score with 1:21 to play, forcing overtime. Columbia's defense held Penn to a field goal, then Anders Hill '18 completed a pass to Josh Wainwright '20 for a 24-yard touchdown — and the win.

There were several other dramatic finishes. Hosting Wagner in the season opener, Columbia blocked a late field goal attempt and drove 54 yards to set up Oren Milstein '20's 29-yard field goal as time expired for a 17–14 win. Against Princeton, Ronald Smith II '20 caught a short pass from Hill and raced 63 yards for a touchdown with 1:12 to play for a 28–24 victory. At Dartmouth, Columbia built a 15-point lead and then held off a late Dartmouth comeback, with Mike Hinton '19 coming up with a sack on the final play of the game to secure a 22–17 win.

ROAR!

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit **gocolumbialions.com.**

Columbia's seven-game winning streak, including a win at Brown in the final game of 2016, was its longest since 1935. But it came to an end with a 23–6 loss at Yale, and the following week the Lions dropped a 21–14 heartbreaker to Harvard in a game in which Columbia drove deep into Crimson territory six times, but failed to turn the opportunities into points. The Lions bounced back with an 18–8 win over Cornell and completed their successful season with a 24–6 triumph over Brown. Afterward, Bagnoli singled out the team's 31 seniors for special praise: "The seniors have been awesome. This is a fitting way for them to leave the field, with eight victories under their belt, playing meaningful games and coming up big when they had to. I'm very proud of them."

"We came a long, long way," said defensive back Cameron Roane '18. "The reason I came here was to turn this program around, change the culture, and we definitely did that. You always want to leave the program in good hands so the young guys can pick up where we left off. I hope we taught them well and they can continue moving forward."

Wainwright set a school record for receiving yards in a season with 1,001, topping the previous mark held by Don Lewis '84 (1,000 in 1982). Hill set a school record for season completion percentage (63.4 percent), completing 206 of 325 passes for 2,407 yards and 16 touchdowns, and punter Parker Thome '18 led the Ivy League with a 42.9-yard average and placed 23 inside the 20-yard line.

A school-record 12 players received All-Ivy honors. Wainwright, Roane, Thome and defensive lineman Lord Hyeamang '18 were named to the first team; Baty, Hill and offensive lineman Bewley Wales '18 were chosen to the second team; and honorable mention went to Smith, offensive lineman Markham Paukune '18, defensive lineman Dominic Perkovic '18, linebacker Michael Murphy '20 and kick returner Will Allen '21.

As for Bagnoli, he said after the Brown game that he would savor the season for 24 hours and then get back to recruiting and planning for 2018. "The trick — and hard part — once you've established a good program is to keep it," he said. "That to me is going to be our true barometer."

— Alex Sachare '71

Women's Cross-Country Wins Ivy Heps Title

Columbia's women's cross country team took the crown in the Ivy League Heptagonal Championships on October 27 in Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx. It was Columbia's first women's team title since 2005 and the first time that a team vaulted from last place to first in the league in the course of one year. The Lions earned their first berth in the NCAA Championships since 2005 and finished 28th of 31 teams to qualify.

"It's a tribute to what the girls have done," said Coach Daniel Ireland, who was chosen the Ivy League women's Coach of the Year. "We sat in the tent a year ago at Princeton after we didn't run well, and we were really disappointed. I told them right then, 'If we're going to do better next year, it starts now.'"



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Women's cross country earned its first Ivy Heps title in more than a decade.

Nell Crosby '18 led the way in the six-kilometer race for the Lions, finishing fourth. After that it was a team effort as runners Erin Melly '18, Fiona Danieu '20, Erin Gregoire '19, Bianca Alonzo '20 and Sarah Hardie '18 crossed the finish line 14th through 18th. Crosby was named to the All-Ivy first team and Melly to the second team.

On the men's side, Ryan Thomas '18 won the individual championship as the Lions finished second behind Princeton in the team competition. Thomas completed the five-mile race in 24:57, 1.7 seconds ahead of Noah Kauppila of Princeton, the first of three Tigers who finished second through fourth. Thomas was named to the All-Ivy first team along with Kenny Vasbinder '20, who finished fifth, and Brian Zabilski '19, who came in seventh. Lucky Schreiner '19 crossed the line in eighth place to earn All-Ivy second team honors.



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Second-team All-American Arthur Bosua '18 celebrates one of his career-high four goals against Harvard on November 5.

Soccer Enjoys Strong Men's, Women's Seasons

Second place finishes in the Ivy League highlighted strong 2017 seasons for both Columbia's men's and women's soccer teams. The men's team won 12 games overall and earned a berth in the NCAA championships, with Arthur Bosua '18 repeating as Ivy Offensive Player of the Year, while the women's team garnered a program-record eight All-Ivy honors with Natalie Ambrose '18 being named Ivy Defensive Player of the Year.

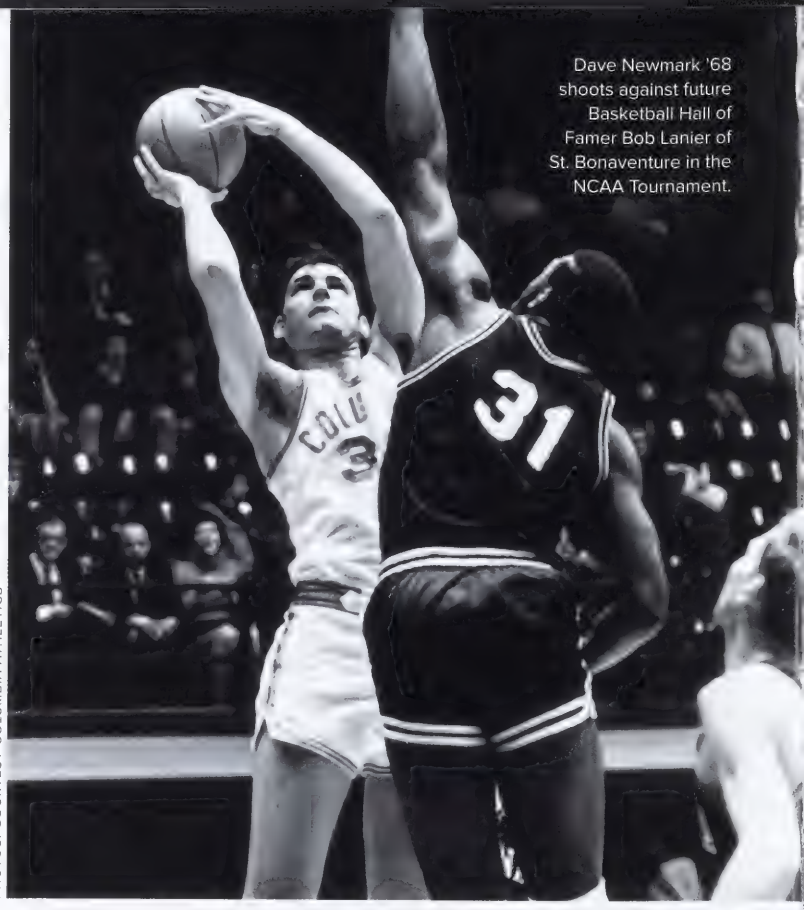
Both teams excelled at the defensive end of the pitch, with the women allowing just one goal and the men two goals in seven Ivy League matches. But those goals, plus a tie by each team, were enough to keep them from wearing Ivy crowns.

The men finished at 12–3–3 overall and 5–1–1 in the Ivies, with an outstanding 21–2 goal differential against league opponents. But after a scoreless tie at Princeton, the Lions allowed both those goals in a 2–1 road loss against league champion Dartmouth and ended up a half-game behind the Big Green. They received an at-large berth to the NCAA tournament, where they beat William & Mary 2–1 in double overtime on November 16 before losing 1–0 at Wake Forest three days later.

The team was led by Bosua and goalkeeper Dylan Castanheira '19. Bosua topped the Ivies with 12 goals and 29 points, while Castanheira posted 11 shutouts and compiled a goals-against average of 0.43, third-best in the nation. Bosua and Castanheira were joined on the All-Ivy first team by defender Alex Bangerl '18, midfielder/forward John Denis '20 and midfielder Vana Markarian '20, while defender Blake Willis '21 was a second team choice and midfielder Danny Laranetto '20 received honorable mention.

The women compiled a 9–5–2 overall record and 5–1–1 league mark. They lost to Yale 1–0 on October 28, and a scoreless tie against Harvard the following week left the Lions a half-game behind Princeton.

Ambrose, the first player in school history to garner Ivy Defensive Player of the Year honors, was joined on the All-Ivy first team by midfielder Natalie Neshat '18, Columbia's leading scorer with nine goals. Second-team honors went to forwards Emma Anderson '19 and Amaris Hemmings '19, defender Amalya Johnson '20 and goalkeeper Sophie Whitehouse '19. Forward Emily Koe '20 and defender Reilly Lucas '19 received honorable mention.



Dave Newmark '68 shoots against future Basketball Hall of Famer Bob Lanier of St. Bonaventure in the NCAA Tournament.

PHOTOS: COURTESY COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

That Championship Season

Fifty years ago, the Lions were kings of Ivy basketball

By Alex Sachare '71

In a country that was becoming increasingly divided by a war on the far side of the globe, on a campus that would soon erupt in unprecedented chaos, one group brought the Columbia community together in early 1968: the Lions basketball team, which won the Ivy League championship for the first time in school history by beating Princeton in a one-game playoff.

"The spring of 1968 was a dramatic time in our country," recalls Jonathan D. Schiller '69, LAW'73, a reserve forward who played regularly on that team and who is now a prominent attorney and chair of Columbia's Board of Trustees. "In our race to the championship, everyone tried to attend our games regardless of politics or degree of activism. It was a thrill to have everybody's support. It was fast becoming a very difficult time on campus, but it was great to have this unity in a dysfunctional time."



Coach Jack Rohan '53

Since the Ivy League began men's basketball competition in 1956–57, the 1967–68 team holds the distinction of having won Columbia's only men's basketball Ivy League championship. It's something that the members of the team don't necessarily dwell on, but in which they nonetheless take great pride.

"I try not to let it be one of the high points of my life, because you don't want to be one of those ex-athletes who is living in the past. And yet, it is something I'm very proud of," says Larry Borger '68, the team's 6-foot-6-inch captain and sixth man, who had careers as an educator and corporate trainer before retiring in 2003 from a Phoenix utility company. "Every now and then I'll bump into someone who asks me if I played basketball, and if I find out they played collegiately, I'll weave in a little braggadocio about our championship."

"You don't really reflect on what happened until years later," says Roger Walaszek '69, LAW'73, a starting forward on that team who became an attorney in western Massachusetts. "It was a tremendous year."

The star of the Lions was Jim McMillian '70, a 6-foot-5-inch forward who went on to play nine NBA seasons and won a championship with the 1971–72 Los Angeles Lakers. He led the Columbia team with 22.3 ppg and earned the first of three consecutive All-Ivy first team honors. Walaszek recalls McMillian as "an incredibly talented athlete, a great shooter and team player with great basketball instincts." Borger agrees, "A great team player, on and off the court — we all liked him."

Joining McMillian on the All-Ivy first team (and several All-America teams as well) was 7-foot center Dave Newmark '68, a presence in the pivot with a feathery jump shot. Walaszek earned All-Ivy second team honors as did Heyward Dotson '70, LAW'76, a solid all-around guard who would win a Rhodes Scholarship. Rounding out the starting five was point guard Billy Ames '68, who was backed up at the playmaker spot by Bruce Metz SEAS'69. Columbia was coached by Jack Rohan '53, a fine tactician who is the school's all-time leader with 198 wins in two stints as head coach, 1961–74 and 1990–95.

Columbia at the time played its home games in University Hall, now known as the Blue Gym, a band box with a seating capacity of 1,754 (the year Columbia was founded, presumably no coincidence). Its eccentricities included two huge tiled pillars at courtside between the teams' benches and an overhead running track that often was used by fans for standing room. By midseason every game was sold out, with students often lining up for hours to get tickets. The band was a boisterous presence at every game, and their songs and the fans' cheers reverberated in the confined quarters, providing the Lions with a solid home-court advantage — Columbia's home record was a perfect 12–0.

"I can't say enough about the tremendous support we received," says Walaszek. "People were caught up with the team the entire year — not just sports fans but also other students, faculty, the entire academic community."

After cruising past their first four opponents, the Lions suffered successive losses to Cornell, Georgetown and Fordham and went into the Holiday Festival at Madison Square Garden — then the premier midseason tournament in the country — with a 4–3 record. Columbia, just 11–14 the previous season, had a revamped lineup built around two sophomores, McMillian and Dotson, who were playing their first season of varsity ball (freshmen were ineligible at the time), and Newmark, who was returning after a year's leave of absence for health reasons.

"We were a very young team and it took us a little while to gel," says Walaszek. "That tournament brought us together as a team. That was the turning point. We went from nowhere to a place in the top 10 national rankings."

The Lions did so by beating national powers West Virginia 98–71, Louisville 74–67 and St. John's 60–55 in a span of five days between Christmas and New Year's. The victory over Louisville was particularly impressive, as the Cardinals featured All-Americans Wes Unseld and Butch Beard and were expected to contend for the national championship.

"That was an unbelievable experience," says Schiller. "After we beat nationally ranked Louisville, we rode the IRT back to campus with the band and they played 'Who Owns New York?' the whole way. It was the greatest subway ride in history."

The Lions returned to Ivy League play on January 5 with a 100–72 thumping of Yale and did not lose again until the season finale on March 2, a 68–57 defeat at Princeton that left the Lions and Tigers tied atop the Ivy League with 12–2 records. That forced a one-game playoff for the Ivy title and a berth in the NCAA tournament. The game was to be played on March 5 at a neutral site, and to the delight of Columbia supporters, the site chosen by the Ivy League was St. John's University Alumni Hall in Queens, N.Y.

"The Columbia fans got there hours before the game and were a great help in motivating us," says Walaszek. "It was pretty incredible. It was just like a home game." Indeed, the game story in *Spectator* noted that the attendance was a capacity 6,005, "most of them Columbia partisans."



The Columbia Lions were ranked in the AP's top 10 for 10 consecutive weeks during the 1967–68 season. They peaked at Number 6 for three weeks during February 13–27 and finished the season ranked Number 7.

Newmark, who had missed the final four games of the season with a severely sprained ankle and was considered doubtful for the playoff, managed to play and scored the first basket of the game on a drive to the hoop that sparked Columbia to a quick early lead. The Lions never looked back, taking a 41–33 margin into halftime and extending it to double digits by outscoring Princeton 13–7 to start the second half en route to a 92–74 victory. McMillian was at his best, leading all scorers with 37 points. Walaszek added 20 and Dotson contributed 19 plus outstanding defense against Princeton's star guard, Geoff Petrie.

"After we beat nationally ranked Louisville, we rode the IRT back to campus with the band and they played 'Who Owns New York?' the whole way. It was the greatest subway ride in history."

— Jonathan D. Schiller '69, LAW'73

When the team bus got back to campus, says Borger, "I remember there being a whole bunch of people out there celebrating. They celebrated long into the night."

Columbia went on to defeat LaSalle 83–69 in the first round of the NCAA tournament before suffering a 61–59 overtime loss to Davidson on March 15 at Raleigh, N.C., in what was then the round of 16. They finished the season with a 23–5 record after beating St. Bonaventure and their All-American center, Bob Lanier, 95–75 in the consolation game.

Rohan's contributions in shaping the team's success cannot be overstated. The Lions' played an aggressive pressing defense and an offense that stressed ball movement and teamwork to produce open shots. "Basketball is designed to be played by five people who play together and work hard to get the best shot, and that's the way we played under Jack Rohan," says Walaszek. "He was a taskmaster, but that's why he was a great coach, the NCAA Coach of the Year. Execution was his strength and that's what he drilled in us."

Schiller, who describes that squad as "a very intelligent team," recalls how Rohan had the 1968–69 team, which was headed to Hawaii to play in the Rainbow Classic, stop in Los Angeles to attend a UCLA practice under legendary coach John Wooden. "He modeled our press on the UCLA press and he wanted us to have that experience of seeing firsthand how Coach Wooden taught discipline and movement to his team."

Rohan died in 2004 and McMillian in 2016. The Athletics Department is planning a reunion for the team — the first to be inducted into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame, in 2006 — to be held the weekend of February 2–3.

Former CCT *editor-in-chief* **Alex Sachare '71** *sat in the front row at St. John's and cheered throughout the Lions' playoff victory over Princeton.*



UNDER PRESSURE

Anxiety on campus is a national concern. How are colleges supporting students' emotional well-being?

BY ALEXIS BONCY SOA'11
ILLUSTRATIONS BY SCOTT BAKAL

Christen Scully Kromm, dean of undergraduate student life, has worked at Columbia for 18 years — first for Barnard, and now at the College. Since 2006 she has lived with her husband and family (two children and a rescue pup) in an apartment on the ninth floor of Wallach Hall. This means she also lives alongside approximately 240 under- and upperclassmen. Her presence has a certain warmth; she hosts dinners and study breaks and, every October, goes door to door with gift bags: tea for a cold day, a granola bar for a healthful snack.

On the day I visited Kromm's office in Lerner Hall, in early September, she and Matthew Patashnick, assistant dean for student and family support, were recovering from the rigors of Orientation the prior week. Helping close to 1,100 first-years adjust to life at the College — along with helping families adjust to a life that doesn't involve seeing their teenagers every day — is no mean feat. An abridged list of student activities includes meetings with residence hall and Orientation group leaders; group trips to Bed, Bath & Beyond; a campus resource fair; the first Lit Hum lecture; financial aid 101; lessons in library use; a cross-borough tour to Brooklyn; a Yankees-Red Sox game.

Of all the moving parts of Orientation, what the pair is most concerned with is perhaps the least visible: how students are faring in mindset and mood. The transition from high school to college can be fraught, rife with opportunity for expectations to clash with reality, and students can be sent reeling. "The message that we made clear throughout was 'Ask for help when you need it,'" Kromm says. "It is OK to not have everything the way that you wanted it or thought it would be all of the time."

The challenges extend into every corner of a new student's experience. By and large they are living independently for the first time, responsible now for the instrumental decisions of daily life — when to wake up, what to eat, when to study, with whom to socialize. They might feel pressure to compete academically. They might feel pressure to load up on extracurriculars. They might feel lonely. Such massive change can be stressful to manage in and of itself; add to that the fact that 17- to 22-year-olds are developmentally at an age when mental health issues can start to manifest. "It's this interesting moment in time when all of these things collide, and it's right when they're here and right when their parents are not," Patashnick says.

That we are even having this conversation reflects a shift that's occurred not just at the College, but also nationwide, as increasing numbers of college students grapple with mental health issues. And it's not limited to first-years. The National College Health Assessment (NCHA) — the most comprehensive known survey on the health of college students — in spring 2017 found that nearly a quarter of all college students experienced anxiety that affected their academic performance; almost 16 percent cited depression. More than 10 percent had seriously considered suicide in the last 12 months, and 1.5 percent attempted it.

These statistics and others like them cap almost two decades of rising anxiety and depression rates in college students. The timing suggests a generational phenomenon — one that maps to the Millennials as they began arriving on campuses, in the late 1990s, and has continued with their successors, the so-called iGeneration. The possible reasons for their struggles are complex, involving the times these students were raised in, the way they were raised and changes in how we communicate. Colleges and universities, meanwhile, are being called on to understand and evolve to meet the needs of their newest charges.

At the College, expanding support for students and encouraging a culture of wellness has been a priority in recent years. "It feels like students are paying more attention to one another," Kromm says. "With mental health [issues], they want to know how to help. That hasn't always been a conversation here; the students can get very self-focused and driven; they have their small niche and their small community, and that's who really matters. Now, for really the first time, it has seemed like people care beyond their own little bubbles."

Still, the challenges are many. "There's this stigma that a lot of our students feel — if you admit weakness, if you admit that something isn't going right, then you're different from your peers," says Patashnick. "One of the hardest things to teach, and that we strive to encourage, is that asking for help isn't a sign of weakness — asking for help is a sign of strength."

The research field of campus mental health has largely emerged in the past 20 years. Prior to that, college counseling services were generally smaller operations, thinly staffed and with less funding. In 1964, psychiatrist Dana Farnsworth — director of Harvard University Health Services from 1954 to 1971 and an authority on students' emotional problems — notably estimated that of the millions of college students in the country, one in 10 had emotional problems severe enough to warrant professional help. Farnsworth's work, however, didn't focus on direct research. And while there are exceptions, minimal analysis was done prior to the early aughts.

That's when psychologist Sherry Benton, then at Kansas State University, authored a study that cracked open the field. Conversationally, people had been talking about "how 'the problems are getting worse' — noticing they were seeing more severe pathology in college counseling centers — since the late 1990s to 2001," Benton says. "But no one had any actual data to verify it."

"ONE OF THE HARDEST THINGS TO TEACH, and that we strive to encourage, is that asking for help isn't a sign of weakness — asking for help is a sign of strength."

Speaking by phone from Florida, where she is now the chief science officer for Therapy Assistance Online counseling, Benton also recalls a prevailing attitude toward student mental health that at the time was limited to homesickness, relationships and career decisions. "That was the illusion out there, that that's what you got if you worked in a counseling center," she says. "But if you think about it, most college mental health centers or counseling centers are basically serving the population of a small city, especially on larger campuses — so you see the full range of problems that you would anywhere else."

Benton and her colleague Fred Newton analyzed more than a decade of data about students who visited Kansas State's counseling center between 1988 and 2001 — more than 13,000 students, making it then the largest study of its kind. The findings, published in 2003 and widely reported in the media, were eye opening: In 13 years, the number of students seen with depression doubled, while the number of students with suicidal thoughts tripled. (Notably, instances of problems like substance abuse, eating disorders and chronic mental illness remained relatively stable.) Until 1994, relationship problems had dominated as the most frequent issue among students; in the years after, stress and anxiety issues prevailed. As a microcosm of college students nationwide, the findings suggested a trend worth examining further.

By the time Benton's work was making headlines, the American College Health Association was a few years into administering its NCHA to college students nationwide, although it would be some time before its semi-annual collection of data could be parsed for trends. As more funding became available, other organizations affirmed and expanded what Benton uncovered.

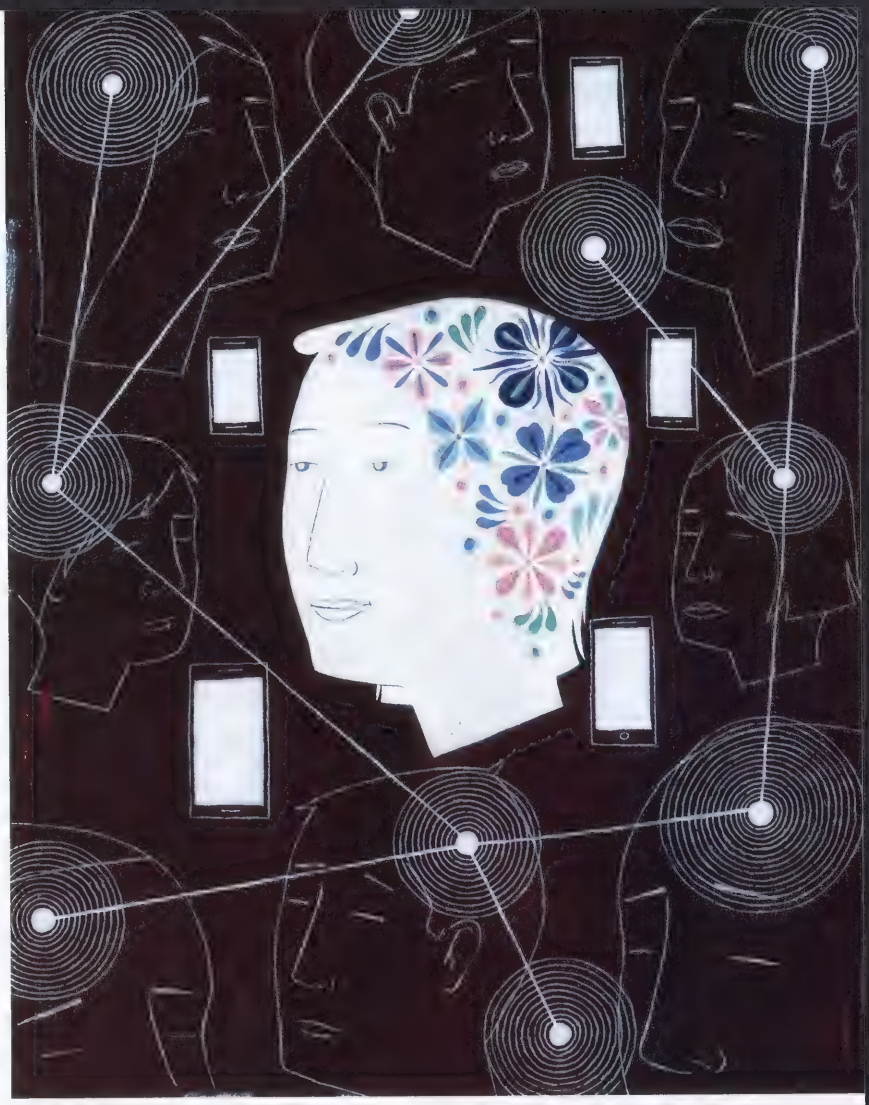
Today's leaders in campus mental health research include the Healthy Minds Network, a consortium of scholars working in public health, education, medicine and psychology, and the similarly multidisciplinary Center for Collegiate Mental Health (CCMH). HMN launched its Healthy Minds Study nationally in 2007; like the NCHA, it asks about a range of health issues — topics like eating disorders, drug use, sexual behavior, nutrition and exercise — and seeks input from a general population of college students nationwide. CCMH, on the other hand, gathers input from college and university counseling centers, which means it focuses specifically on students who have sought treatment. It began gathering annual data sets during the 2010–11 academic year.

The research accumulated by these organizations paints a picture of college students' increasing struggles with anxiety and depression. Take the NCHA: In spring 2009, almost 50 percent of students reported overwhelming anxiety, compared with 60.8 percent in spring 2017. (The survey was revamped in fall 2008, so earlier data can't be used for comparison.) In 2009, nearly 31 percent of students said they were so depressed "it was difficult to function"; by 2017 that number had climbed to 39.1 percent. The number who seriously considered suicide rose from 6 percent to 10.3 percent in the same time frame.

CCMH, meanwhile, has seen slow but steady increases in the intensity of students' self-reported anxiety and depression every year from 2010–11 to 2015–16 (the most recent data available) and the two were the most common concerns for students in 2015–16. CCMH also has seen slow increases each year in "threat-to-self" characteristics such as non-suicidal self-injury and suicidal ideation. The number who seriously considered attempting suicide — 23.8 percent in 2010–11 — reached 33.2 percent in 2015–16.

So, how did we get here?

The answer is complicated. Cause is difficult to prove, though correlations can be found. Still, during the course of my conversations with experts and college administrators, several factors came up again and again



— a stew of forces that have been at work on today's college students since they were very young.

There is, to begin, the effect of large-scale societal events. These young adults, Benton says, experienced the 2008 recession through the prism of their families and came of age in a country that has frequently been saturated with news of terrorism and violence: "It's those kinds of things that yank away people's sense of predictability in the world," she says. Benton's Kansas State study bears out this point, with bumps in students' anxiety and depression following the floods and foreclosures that consumed the region in 1993, and again after the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995. The confluence of events in the early aughts is even more extreme. "You have a generation who grew up with less of a sense of safety and security than a generation ago," she says.

They are also a generation that grew up with more parenting — the phenomenon of the so-called helicopter parent — a cultural shift that continues today. Julie Lythcott-Haims, a former Stanford administrator and author of *How to Raise an Adult,* has explored the subject for more than a decade. As she describes it, overparenting takes many forms, from hypervigilance around safety and intervening in playground squabbles when kids are young, to managing the constellation of hobbies, sports, academics and extracurriculars that make up their teenagers' lives. Such pervasive control, she has found, deprives children of a chance to build life skills and develop confidence in their ability to be self-reliant; it also correlates with higher rates of anxiety and depression. "If we're overhelped our psyche seems to know, 'Hey, I didn't do that myself. I'm not sure I'm capable,' or 'I might not have chosen that if it were up to me,'" says Lythcott-Haims.

Especially toxic, she notes, is a widespread culture of competition, exacerbated by a too-narrow definition of success: "A childhood that is about accumulating accomplishment and achievement in furtherance of getting into the 'right' college, which is heavily managed by parents who have those goals in mind, ends up being a childhood that deprives a young person of developing a self," she says. "However accomplished these kids are on paper, however magnificent their achievements, they are thin at an existential level. They have not been permitted to be themselves; they have been honed into a champion human who looks a certain way outwardly but might be feeling pretty bewildered inside." What's more, if they haven't had experience with failure, they might have trouble coping with setbacks.

Lythcott-Haims references her home community of Palo Alto, Calif., which is struggling to combat a youth suicide rate four to five times higher than the national average. "I think what we're seeing with this helplessness and hopelessness that leads a young person to do the unthinkable — to have a sense of, 'I'm not sure this life is worth living' — I think it is related to, 'I'm not sure this life is even mine.'"

Then there is the smartphone. The now-ubiquitous technology has fundamentally changed the shape of young adulthood, from the way teens talk to one another to how they spend their free time. Jean Twenge, a professor of psychology at San Diego State University, examines the "earthquake" it and social media have unleashed in her recently published *iGen*. (The book's title comes from the term she coined for the swath of young adults, born between 1995 and 2012, who will have spent the entirety of their adolescence in the age of the smartphone.) While the full psychological effects are still being determined, Twenge's analysis, summed up in a September article in *The Atlantic*, suggests they are undermining teenagers' well-being.

Among other things, Twenge cites the Monitoring the Future study — funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse — which asks teens about happiness and how much of their leisure time is spent on both non-screen activities (exercise, in-person social interaction) and screen activities (social media, texting, web browsing): "There's not a single exception," she writes. "All screen activities are linked to less happiness, and all non-screen activities are linked to more happiness."

Her indictment continues: Loneliness is more common in teenagers who spend more time on smartphones and less time on in-person social interactions; the more time teens spend looking at screens, the more likely they are to report symptoms of depression; teens who spend three hours a day or more on electronic devices are 35 percent more likely to have a risk factor for suicide. Social media,

meanwhile, has levied a psychic tax both on those who create posts (anxiously waiting for affirmation) and those who read them (who wind up feeling left out). The result, Twenge concludes, is a cohort of young adults who are "on the brink of the worst mental-health crisis in decades."

Have we really reached a crisis moment? Benjamin Locke, executive director of the Center for Collegiate Mental Health, pushes back against that characterization. He sees the statistics — at least in part — as a reflection of education around these issues, from the elementary school level on up, that has taken place during the last decade. "We've fundamentally changed the culture about mental health, help-seeking and stigma reduction," he says. "And as a consequence of that we're seeing growing demand." The statistics also could reflect the fact that advances in diagnosing and treating mental illness have made it possible for more students with these struggles to attend college in the first place.

Locke resists the idea that students today are less resilient. "If you think about it, the students who are landing on campuses have been living in a competitive, self-comparative mindset for longer and more intensely than probably any prior generation of students," he says. "They're unbelievably resilient. But college is a massive life adjustment, and if there was anything that would bring out these maybe previously managed, normative experiences of depression and anxiety, it would be college."

The college experience itself also brings stresses that students might feel more acutely today than in the past. Many face uncertainty around job prospects and what the economy will look like going forward. First-generation and low-income students might feel added pressure to succeed because of their backgrounds. High achievers, especially at top universities, can find themselves unmoored by the discovery that their intelligence and talent — an exception among their high school peers — is now the norm. The realization can set off something of an identity crisis: If I'm not "the smart one," who am I? What do I have to offer?

As researchers continue to explore what's influencing the well-being of our young adults, colleges and universities face an even more pressing question: What can they do to help?



Ensuring the wellness of a campus is a big undertaking. So is wellness itself — an idea that encompasses all the ways people nourish their physical and mental health. For college students, yes, that can mean talking with a counselor when they feel overwhelmed — but also anything from eating right, exercising and getting enough sleep, to finding the right balance of studying and social time, to having a network of friends and engaging in positive relationships. Increasingly, Columbia and other colleges are looking holistically at how they can educate students about self-care, encourage them to prioritize it and create a culture that supports them in it.

"This growing concept of campus wellness is really about articulating value around all of the activities that we know promote wellness and helping students to value those because — historically — they probably haven't been encouraged to value them," Locke says. "They've been encouraged to value competition and taking on more and doing more and being successful, but actually, those things don't lead to wellness."

Confronted with a tide of anxiety and depression that has yet to turn, schools are responding in many ways. Some institutions have developed programs that teach students how to cope not only with academic stress, especially around failure, but also simpler setbacks like roommate difficulties or relationship frustrations. Examples include The Resilience Project at Stanford, Smith College's Failing Well, the Princeton Perspective Project, Harvard's Success-Failure Project and Penn Faces.

At Columbia College, a director of student wellness position has been created, and all staff now receive gatekeeper training, which teaches members of a community — including and especially non-health professionals — how to spot and respond to the warning signs of a mental health crisis. It also has partnered with The Jed Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to promoting emo-

tional health and preventing suicide among college students — founded by Phillip M. Satow '63 and Donna Satow GS'65 — to review its undergraduate wellness services and programming, and develop a strategic plan for enhancing these efforts.

While programs like these allow students the opportunity to air out self-doubt, talk about their struggles and get out from under the façade of perfection, just as important is helping students understand that it's normal to use mental health services when they're having a hard time. "Nobody gets a clear sail through their entire life, at least no one I've ever met," says Richard Eichler '75, TC'87, executive director of Columbia's Counseling and Psychological Services. "Stress can be associated with positive events as well as negative ones. Getting married, getting a new job, starting college, moving, having a baby — everything I've named is basically a wonderful thing, but they're stressful in the sense that they place demands on a person. They challenge us. Some of what we [CPS] want to communicate is, it's fine to get help if you're dealing with those sorts of challenges, there's nothing abnormal about it."

Eichler has a long perspective on college student mental health, having worked at Columbia since 1986 and as the director of CPS — the only director it's ever had — since its founding in 1992. In addition to its roster of psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers who meet with students, the center runs support groups and sponsors workshops that promote resilience and healthy coping strategies.

Eichler notes that the number of students who use the center's services has more than tripled since its inception, but resists drawing a conclusion about whether that means students are more anxious or depressed today. "My strong sense is that whatever trends might exist in the general population, a big part of that [the increase] is people are willing to get help in a way that they weren't 25 years ago, and the resources are much more robust and much more accessible … We — not just Columbia but all of our peer institutions and schools across the country — have devoted a lot more resources to building up these services and making them visible to students."

CPS, for example, has established practice groups based on areas of special interest — topics like sexual and gender identity issues, multicultural concerns and trauma support. It has also made clinicians' biographies available online, so students can easily read about their backgrounds and expertise. "All of this is a way of trying to be more responsive to students but also sending the message: 'No matter who you are, you're welcome here, and we have people who are likely to be able to understand your experience,'" Eichler says.

Though expansion and awareness of wellness-related services is critical, many health organizations believe that the psychological well-being of a campus is not the sole province of its mental health and counseling services. This more comprehensive, or "ecological," approach calls for helping students develop independent living, social and emotional skills; fostering connectedness and belonging on campus; and reducing the sense of shame or secrecy that can come with personal struggle.

Eichler endorses the ecological model and sees it already in action around Columbia. "We want for everyone on campus to think that there's a mutual responsibility to one another's well-being," he says. "And we want people on campus who become aware of a student in distress to feel that they have an awareness of the resources and the confidence to talk to that student about seeking out the resources they need."

At the College, increased emphasis has also been placed on fostering connectedness. The Residence Hall Leadership Organization, for example, gives students an opportunity to get involved from the moment they arrive on campus, which can be especially important for first-years.

"WE WANT FOR EVERYONE ON CAMPUS to think that there's a mutual responsibility to one another's well-being."

And the group's programming, in partnership with Alice! Health Promotion, includes social events on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights to help with community building.

"Small gestures of humanity and connection really go a long way," Eichler says. "That's some of what we're talking about with a healthy campus. They can make people feel more at home and more connected."

Back in Lerner Hall, the importance of helping the College's newest students feel at home is acutely top of mind for Kromm and Patashnick. "We've been trying to build more programs that get smaller groups of students together during Orientation," Kromm says. "So if you haven't made your connection from your Orientation group or your residence hall floor, there might be another way to connect you." She notes that the number of social identity mixers and "Community Unscripteds" — get-togethers focused around specific interests like music, activism or politics — both have been expanded.

Kromm also describes changes to the way the Orientation groups themselves work. In the past the small breakout groups met only twice; this year, they met six times, on the last day doing a reflection exercise. "These things aren't mandatory, so you never know how many students are going to stick it out," she says. "But on Friday as I was crossing campus, every group still had 10 or 11 students. It was a nice feeling of students really *wanting* to be part of that community."

Feeling at home also means feeling supported, Patashnick says, pointing to the impact of gatekeeper training. "All our staff engage students on some level, so it's important to us to make sure that everyone feels comfortable getting students connected to the right resource," he says. "It's a whole-community effort to care for the students."

Kromm nods. "It has to be everyone."





STEPHANIE STEBICH '88 BOLDLY STEPS INTO HER NEW ROLE AS A SMITHSONIAN DIRECTOR

THE WORK OF ART

BY ANNE-RYAN HEATWOLE JRN'09

Standing in the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) in front of Nick Cave's *Soundsuit*, a striking eight-foot-tall amalgamation of doilies collected from flea markets and estate sales, Director Stephanie Stebich '88 launches into an explanation about which parts draw the eye and how Cave's background as a dancer influences his work. In front of Mickalene Thomas' colorful *Portrait of Mnonja*, she draws comparisons to Manet's *Olympia* and notes influences from Matisse. Moving toward a piece by Roger Shimomura (*Diary: December 12, 1941*), she points out graffito, preserved from 1864, that had been scratched into the nearby wall during the building's time as a war hospital.

This route had not been the plan. When I met Stebich (her full title is The Margaret and Terry Stent Director of the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the Renwick Gallery) in September for an early morning tour, we were waylaid from our carefully pre-selected path by our photographer's interest in outrageous and eye-catching works; Stebich gamely changed direction. The ease with which she unspooled stories at these unexpected stops points to how quickly she's become familiar with the works in her care.

The museum's director as of April 3, Stebich is passionate about making the Washington, D.C., institution a destination for art lovers and neophytes alike. Her role is varied — hiring curators and staff, raising funds and managing donor relations, keeping the museum running and creating a cohesive experience for visitors. The common threads are a love of art and a deep knowledge built on a long, country-crossing career: "As I look back — and forward — in my career, what type of museums have I been attracted to?" she asks. "I'm a civic art museum kind of girl; my museums have the name of the city in them: Brooklyn, Cleveland, Minneapolis, Tacoma. Now I've got the nation to serve."

Stebich comes to the Smithsonian from Washington State's Tacoma Art Museum (TAM), a mid-sized museum known for its comprehensive Western and Northwestern art collections. During her 12 years there she made significant changes, raising $37 million in a capital campaign — $20 million beyond the goal — and adding more than 2,000 works to the collection. She also was instrumental in acquiring the Haub Family Collection, which in 2012 brought more than 300 works of Western American art to the museum, solidifying its position as a leader in Western American art. "Stephanie is a force of nature," says Laura Fry, the former Haub Curator of Western American Art at TAM. "She is one of the most driven people I've met; she will have a vision and will work tirelessly to execute it. Her leadership was what really made the Tacoma Art Museum."

At SAAM, Stebich is eager to continue taking risks and pushing things forward. "I like to say I inherited well," she says of assuming the role vacated by Betsy Broun, who had held the position since 1989. Six months into the job when we first spoke, Stebich already had big plans, envisioning two new curator positions, one to focus on media art and one for

PORTRAITS BY JÖRG MEYER



Portrait of Mnonja, 2010
Mickalene Thomas

SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, MUSEUM PURCHASE THROUGH THE LUISITA L. AND FRANZ H. DENGHAUSEN ENDOWMENT

© 2010 MICKALENE THOMAS

African-American art; developing a strategic collecting plan focused on filling gaps in the museum's collection (she mentioned starting with the minimalism movement); and building out digital interactive resources for guests. She was also excitedly prepping for "No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man," which will bring the ephemeral, large-scale nature of the Nevada desert festival to the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, with immersive pieces built exclusively for the space. It's scheduled to be on display beginning in March. Stebich had attended the West Coast festival in the past and was eager to share its aesthetic with a new audience.

"My challenge is to remind people that there is a vast country beyond the Eastern Seaboard that we need to be in conversation with, and we need to reflect [those areas'] creativity, inspirations and aspirations," Stebich says.

Born in Germany and raised in Scarsdale, N.Y., the daughter of an art historian and a businessman, Stebich says that becoming a museum director was an obvious choice — "a happy combination of the business of museums and the joy of being with works of art."

Still, although Stebich knew from an early age that she wanted to work in the arts, she credits the College for giving her the background to make it happen. "I'm going to posit that Columbia is the best place to study art history; when you ask what my extracurricular was, it was New York City," she says. "If you think about being an undergraduate, particularly in the field of art history, your resources are unparalleled — you've got unbelievable faculty who are involved in the cultural life of the city, you've got these amazing resources … And of course, you were one bus or subway ride away from all these fabulous museums."

After graduation Stebich had a fellowship at the Guggenheim and an assistantship at the Brooklyn Museum. "It was an exciting time," she says of New York in the late '80s. "I was a member of the Women's Action Coalition and I thought, 'When I become a museum director, I want to make sure women are better represented in all that we do.' Being in the second class of women at the College made that visible to me — that it was a privilege to go there, that this was a different moment."



Electronic Superhighway: Continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii, 1995
Nam June Paik

SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, GIFT OF THE ARTIST.

© NAM JUNE PAIK ESTATE



Stebich in front of *The Throne of the Third Heaven of the Nations' Millennium General Assembly,* ca. 1950–1964 **James Hampton**

SMITHSONIAN AMERICAN ART MUSEUM, GIFT OF ANONYMOUS DONORS.

Stebich's work in civic art museums across the country has well prepared her for being SAAM's director. As the assistant director of the Cleveland Museum of Art, where she worked from 1995 to 2001, she coordinated a major facilities renovation and headed the renovation's architect selection, which she describes as "a fascinating process of planning for new spaces and dreaming of who could imagine [them]." At the Minneapolis Institute of Art, where she was assistant director from 2001 to 2004, she co-led a $500,000 project to link staff and databases to better serve museum visitors; she was also responsible for visitor services, public programs and special events, and interactive media.

In Tacoma, Stebich grew the museum as a community resource. In 2005 she launched the Día de los Muertos Free Community Festival, which initially welcomed 400 visitors; by 2016 it had more than 4,000 visitors a day. She takes pride in presenting what she calls "provocative and important exhibitions," such as "Hide/Seek: Difference and Desire in American Portraiture," which explored the fluidity of sexuality and gender in modern America portraiture; the exhibit caused controversy and protests in D.C. and Brooklyn before she brought it to TAM.

"Stephanie wasn't afraid to have the museum take some risks with the content we presented and what we were willing to do," Fry says. "She was very nimble and forward-thinking in many ways and let the Tacoma Art Museum have a presence and a significance that most museums that size do not. I admired her ability to make bold decisions, to set a direction and not play it safe."

Her time at these varied museums has put Stebich in touch with the pulse of American art and given her a firsthand look at the diversity of the United States. "Civic art museums reflect the cities and communities in which they sit. They are democratic, welcoming and collaborative in spirit," she says. "Their collections and programs reflect the local histories and communities." Now Stebich is ready to take that city-centric focus national.

Standing in front of Nam June Paik's *Electronic Superhighway: Continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii* — a riot of color and sound with neon tubes highlighting film and TV clips looping on a 40-foot map of the U.S. — it's easy to get lost in the work as media blares and bright lights trace familiar paths along state lines. Stebich points out that such a daring piece "invites you to look." And it's her job to make sure guests have plenty of American art to keep looking at. "We want people to see us as their favorite Smithsonian, the one they want to bring people to, that they think of when they think about the American experience and American identity," she says.

Stebich's museum draws many local visitors (she says that 53 percent of visitors are repeats) and she wants to make sure that residents of what she calls "the DMV" (D.C., Maryland, Virginia) continue to be as thrilled by the museum as visitors from further reaches. "I think that's a great testimony to people falling in love with this museum, having their favorites that they visit again and again, and also trusting us to do interesting and surprising exhibitions and stay fresh and relevant," she says. Going forward, the goal is to cultivate "a sense of wonder" for both new and returning guests. To that end, the museum hosts live music nights in the galleries, film screenings and lecture series, and encourages locals to spend time in the stunning Kogod Courtyard, a 28,000-square-foot open space with a glass ceiling at the entrance of SAAM.

We end our tour at the Galleries for Folk and Self-Taught Art, home to the showstopper *The Throne of the Third Heaven of the Nations' Millennium General Assembly* by James Hampton. The kaleidoscopic, multilevel piece is huge, with altars and thrones meticulously crafted from cardboard, plastic and found objects covered in metallics. Above it all, sculpted in foil are the words "FEAR NOT." As we pause to take it in, Stebich says, "'Fear not' — how's that for a mantra in life? I always like to think 'Fear not; art will save you.'"

PLAY IT AGAIN, SAAM

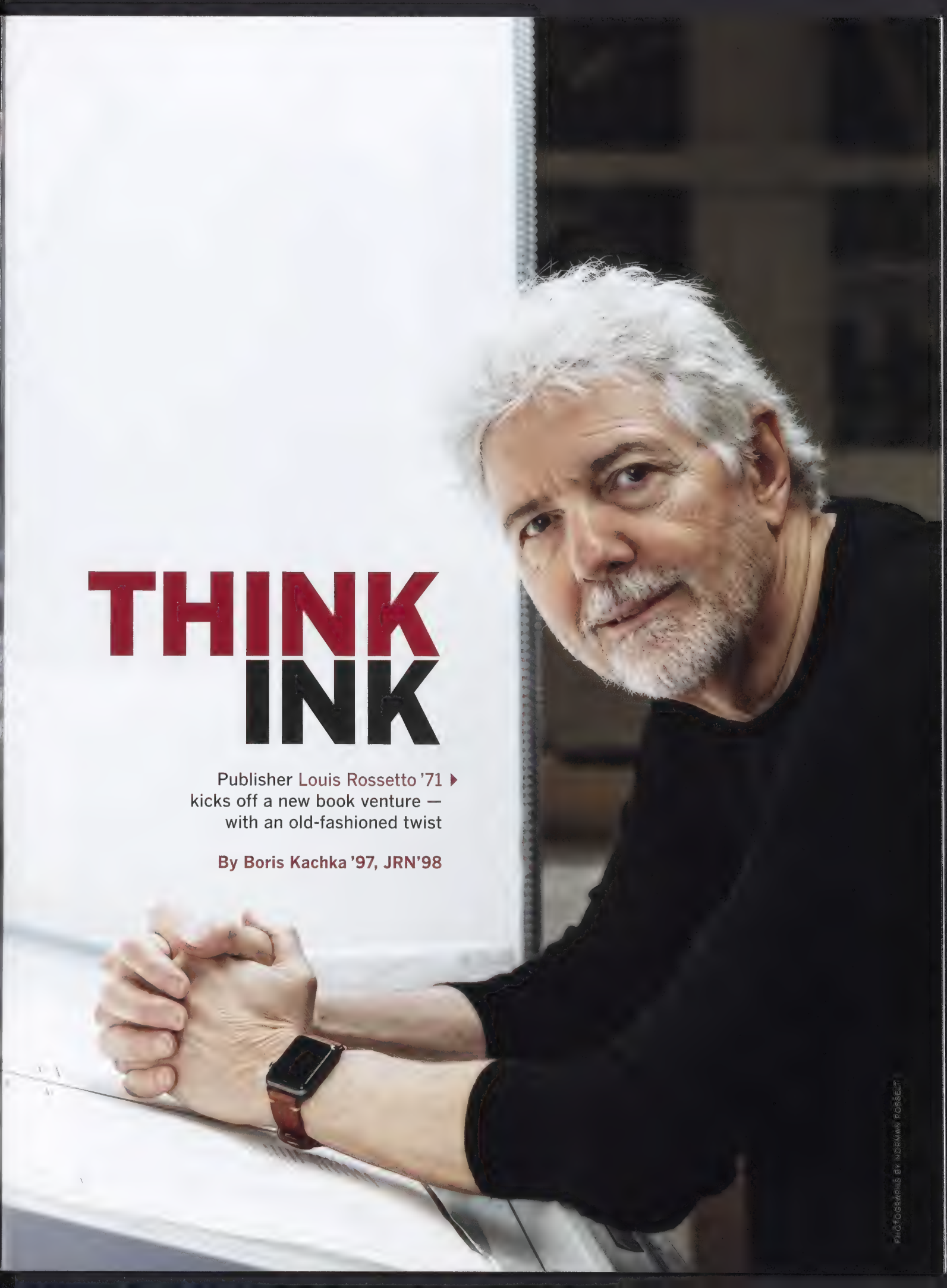
See additional highlights from the museum at **college.columbia.edu/cct/latest/feature-extras**.



THINK INK

Publisher Louis Rossetto '71 kicks off a new book venture — with an old-fashioned twist

By Boris Kachka '97, JRN'98



PHOTOGRAPHS BY NORMAN ROSSELIT

You don't need a business degree to know that printing a novel on an antique press and selling it on Kickstarter is not a sure path to riches. But Louis Rossetto '71, BUS'73 has never been led astray by his irrepressible optimism. In 1993 he launched *Wired*, the world's first consumer tech magazine, with $900,000 and no conventional backers. He sold its properties five years later for $390 million. Now he's decided to publish his second novel, *Change Is Good*, in much the same spirit: as a wild grassroots experiment.

This time, Rossetto enlisted his friend Erik Spiekermann, a German design guru turned inventor, to create more of a proof of concept than a conventional book, a product that melds digital tools with centuries-old technology (call it Letterpress 2.0). Rossetto took their idea straight to the people and, again, found his optimism vindicated — 18 times over. In just one month, the *Change Is Good* project barreled past a $10,000 Kickstarter goal to raise more than $180,000, enough for a healthy print run of 2,500 copies.

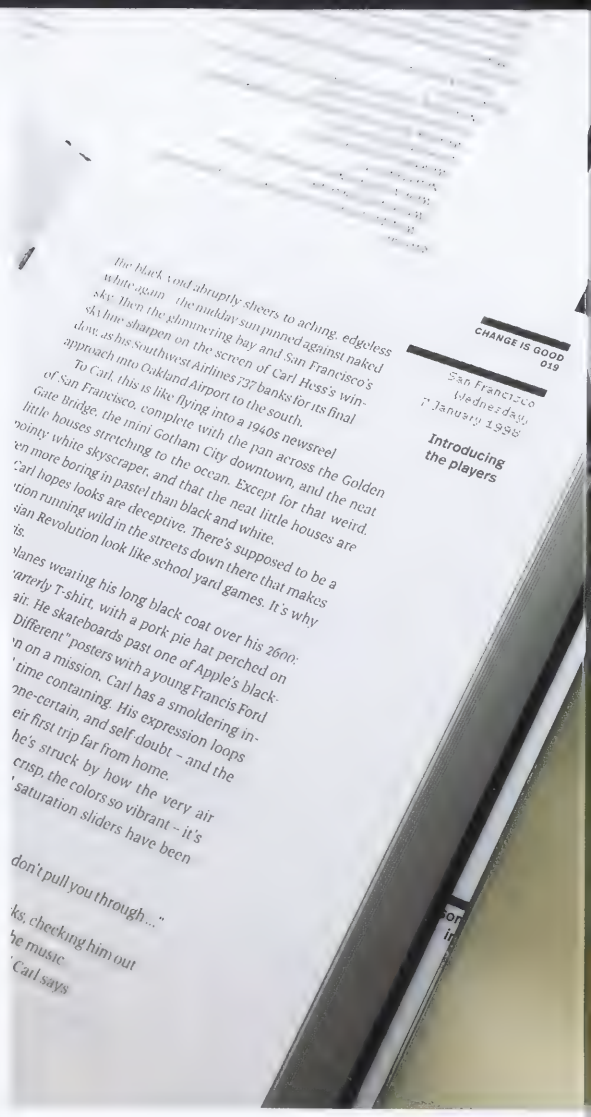
On a crisp day in October, after visiting his daughter, Zoe Rossetto Metcalfe '21, Rossetto sat on the Low Steps to recount his latest career twist. In 1974, the newly minted M.B.A. published *Take-Over*, a thriller about a fictional Nixon-era government coup, before moving to Amsterdam and working on trade magazines. A quarter of a century later, the sale of *Wired* made Rossetto an unemployed millionaire. After a few years raising Zoe and his son, Orson, with his life partner (and *Wired* co-founder), Jane Metcalfe, Rossetto started to think of telling a story closer to home: the San Francisco tech scene in 1998, gripped by the IPO fever that turned would-be revolutionaries into wannabe billionaires.



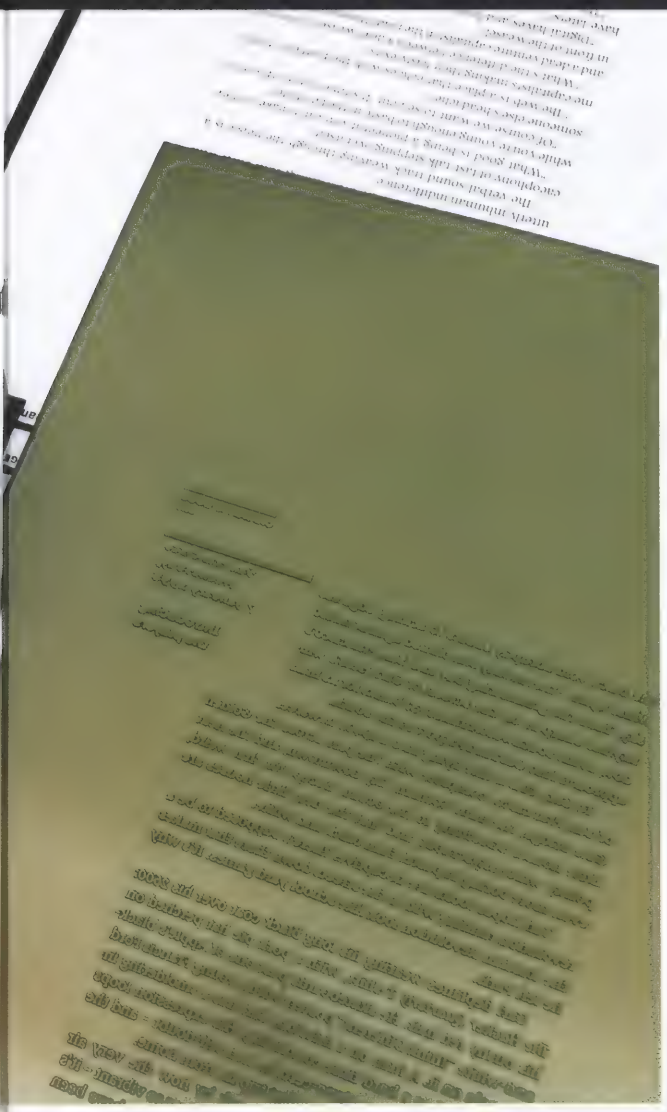
Rossetto founded *Wired* in 1993; its ink-saturated design was an inspiration for *Change Is Good*.

Change Is Good was born a dozen years ago as a detailed movie treatment, complete with illustrations and casting ideas. Rossetto bought two digital cameras and started planning the movie himself. "But then I ended up being the CEO of a chocolate company," he says, "and there went seven years." [Editor's note: See "Louis Rossetto '71 Goes from *Wired* to Chocolate," Summer 2013.] An early investment in the luxury chocolatier TCHO had quickly turned into a full-time startup job. By the time he handed over the reins, Rossetto felt less keen on producing a movie. "Serial television had become the center of creativity," he says, "but I can't do television because I'm a nobody in that sector. How do I get past the gatekeepers?"

Since *Wired* had rapidly expanded from print to the web and even TV, why not launch *Change Is Good* the same way — text first, other media later? During the couple of years it took to turn his movie treatment into a proper novel, Rossetto queried one literary agent, who gave him valuable advice. But then he started talking with his old friend Spiekermann, who was in the middle of his own late career twist. Spiekermann had founded Meta Design, Germany's largest international branding firm, with a specialty in typeface design. But in his youth, he'd been obsessed with a much older form of printing. In 2014, after retiring from marketing, Spiekermann went back to his first love, founding the Berlin letterpress workshop p98a.



Anyone who's been invited to a wedding in the past decade will recognize the vogue for letterpress printing. Not unlike artisanal chocolate, the process caters to consumers nostalgic for old-fashioned, small-batch, high-quality products. Typically, letterpress uses a 1950s-era machine — imagine a giant steampunk office printer that's just eaten an old typewriter — to physically impress letters and shapes into paper, creating borders that seem to pop out of the surface (but actually pop *in*). These antique presses are too cumbersome to produce much more than cards and posters and the occasional pricey art book. But Spiekermann had spent the last few years incorporating new technology with the aim of making beautiful and readable books cheaply enough to build a viable publishing business. His plates are made of lightweight polymer instead of metal, carved by lasers that translate digital fonts into physical type.





Rossetto partnered with German designer Erik Spiekermann to create an artisanal look for his new book.



Spiekermann was still perfecting his Letterpress 2.0 process in January 2017 when Rossetto approached him about *Change Is Good*. Together they hatched a plan to use the novel as a test case, and to use Kickstarter to drum up both funds and publicity. "My intention was never really to make this a publishing hit," says Rossetto, "and even if I did, the best way to do it is to go direct."

Spiekermann estimates that every copy of *Change Is Good* costs just over $40 to produce — half of that spent on its die-cut, foil-stamped cover and slipcase. The books sold on Kickstarter for up to $98 apiece. It's easy to see where the money goes: Though the text between *Change*'s fancy covers isn't illustrated or formatted much differently from your average book, it looks and feels sharper, more permanent. The gap in quality between conventional offset printing and letterpress is "the difference between water and oil, Wonder Bread and whole grain," says Spiekermann. "Our ink is really thick and black. The register is incredible."

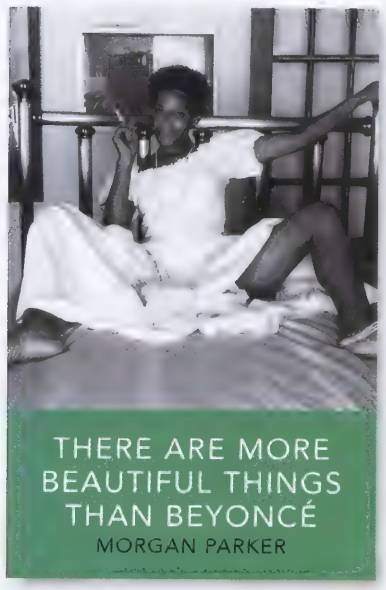
Six-hundred-year-old technology might seem like an odd vehicle for a history of the digital revolution. But Rossetto has always been obsessed with physical objects, or "going from bits to atoms," as he puts it. The influential look of the old *Wired* — ink-saturated and almost phosphorescent — was crafted on a rare six-color press. "We got more ink on the paper and subconsciously that comes across," he says. Today, "there are things that still deserve to be on paper — but if you go to paper, you should try to do the best you can."

Change Is Good's story kicks off at a massive and decadent San Francisco tech party in 1998, on the eve of the IPO of a hot search engine called Gnuhere. (Google was incorporated the same year.) Following six characters — including Gnuhere's hacktivist founder, his artist girlfriend, a banker about to take them public and the party's DJ-slash-Ecstasy dealer — the novel chronicles a generation on the verge of selling out. "The tech industry itself plateaued a long time ago," Rossetto says, but its idealism is still alive — at least in him. The novel's tone is more nostalgic than ironic and, ultimately, as stubbornly sunny as its author. "I'm trying to reconnect people to the sense of wonder and optimism that was abroad at the time," he says. "These were pioneers, the young people who went out into the unknown and came back with all the things that shaped the present."

Rossetto agrees we've come a long way from the days when it looked like technology would make the world kinder and more democratic, "but I don't think you can be an entrepreneur and not be an optimist," he adds. His hopes for the novel itself are a little more down to earth. "I'm just happy to break even," he says. "And if there's money left over, we'll have a party."

The gap in quality between conventional offset printing and letterpress is "the difference between water and oil, Wonder Bread and whole grain."

Boris Kachka '97, JRN'98 *is a contributing editor to* New York *magazine. He has also written for* The New York Times, GQ, Condé Nast Traveler, Elle *and other publications, and is the author of* Hothouse: The Art of Survival and the Survival of Art at America's Most Celebrated Publishing House. *He lives in Brooklyn with his wife and son.*



As "Beautiful" as She Wants To Be

Morgan Parker '10's new book of poetry is "a love letter to black women"

Browsing ***Morgan Parker '10****'s poems, one might assume she has been scribbling free verse since childhood. Her style is easy, imagistic and fluid; Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith calls Parker's writing "acrobatic." The turbo-charged speed of Parker's literary rise only increases the sense of a discipline derived, like athleticism, from a hardcore, lifelong practice. Parker has already published two books and was selected for the all-star lineup in* The Best American Poetry 2016, *as well as for a prestigious 2017 NEA Literature Fellowship. Her celebrity fans include Lena Dunham and counterculture poet Eileen Myles.*



RACHEL ELIZA GRIFFITHS

But poetry is a genre Parker fell into as a College student. She grew up in Highland, Calif., a conservative suburb of Los Angeles, the child of a firefighter and a county employee ("really, really regular people," she told The New Yorker *in April). Parker wrote stories and essays and daydreamed about moving to New York City and becoming a writer — but not, ugh, a poet, she recalled for* CCT*: "Poetry is a weird genre, and I didn't feel like it was for me." That all changed in a creative writing seminar taught by visiting poet Josh Bell. The class read contemporary poems, not the "horrible" works from her high school syllabus. Parker wrote a poem each week, responding to different prompts. She made jokes and talked about herself — "things I wouldn't say out loud." Something opened up for her.*

She still talks about the oddness of poetry, but now it's with affection. It's clear how much the genre has given her — how it allows her to reach out and self-reveal in a way that's both extroverted and inclusive. When Parker's poems are described in interviews or reviews, the word "invitation" recurs. "I'm trying to invite the reader to get to the thing with me … creating a space where they're feeling what I'm feeling," she says. She praises poetry's flexibility and its ability to pinpoint the inexpressible. "A really successful poem — you almost can't put your finger on what's so good," she adds. "You're not saying the thing, you're swirling around it."

The works in her latest book, There Are More Beautiful Things Than Beyoncé *(Tin House Books, $14.95), combine vivid life observations and pop references from a young New York City woman's point of view, spiraling them into expressive, emotionally rich designs. Twelve poems about the many-faceted Beyoncé — a celebrity who represents, for Parker, "every black woman" — blend with more personal riffs on love, race, therapy, martinis and music. Parker sees her new book as, ultimately, a "love letter to black women." Poem after poem depicts their strength, their potential, their fatigue and anger — "everything they have been and are and will be and could be." As she told* New York *magazine last spring: "I just want this to be a reminder that, look, you have permission to be as dope, as fly, as beautiful, as naked, as sad, as fucked up as you want to be."*

— Rose Kernochan BC'82

The President Has Never Said the Word *Black*

To the extent that one begins
to wonder if he is broken.

It is not so difficult to open
teeth and brass taxes.

The president is all like
five on the bleep hand side.

The president be like
we lost a young boy today.

The pursuit of happiness
is guaranteed for all fellow Americans.

He is nobody special like us.
He says brothers and sisters.

What kind of bodies are moveable
and feasts. What color are visions.

When he opens his mouth
a chameleon is inside, starving.

Another Another Autumn in New York

When I drink anything
out of a martini glass
I feel untouched by
professional and sexual
rejection. I am a dreamer
with empty hands and
I like the chill.
I will not be attending the party
tonight, because I am
microwaving multiple Lean Cuisines
and watching *Wife Swap*,
which is designed to get back
at fathers, as westernized media
is often wont to do.
I don't know
when I got so punk rock
but when I catch
myself in the mirror I
feel stronger. So when
at five in the afternoon
something on my TV says
time is not on your side
I don't give any
shits at all. Instead I smoke
a joint like I'm
a teenager and eat a whole
box of cupcakes.
Stepping on leaves I get
first-night thrill.
Confuse the meanings
of castle and slum, exotic
and erotic. I bless
the dark, tuck
myself into a canyon
of steel. I breathe
dried honeysuckle
and hope. I live somewhere
imaginary.

Lush Life

The most beautiful hearse I have ever seen
is parked in front of my stoop
Perched hands folded for six to eight weeks
twinkling like a siren a new idea of love

Trees are planted but don't exist yet
They are leaning non-existent into us
A trough of hearts meets me in the anxious sun
I could rot here

Something like the holy spirit
pours you over bruised ice
There isn't anything more to say than holy
Beautiful men never looking upon me

I take music self-stirred and sleep
alone curve into the morning like an almond
My shoulders lush as romantics
You wash up on a barstool
smooth heartache black sand

13 Ways of Looking at a Black Girl

at risk pretty Queen Latifah Nikki Giovanni
Ma Tina Turner sex
Dyke ugly bitch sex Mamma Nene Leakes
Sally Hemings t.h.o.t. Erykah Badu easy
bipolar Beyoncé sex kitchen rape
wifey Nina Simone Nicki Minaj
sex sex Whitney Houston
Toni Morrison I am hungry Grace Jones
for myself diva slut
thong darkie Michelle Obama
high yellow nappy flawless Audre Lorde
Lena Horne lips Sandra Bland sex strong
sex sister Wanda Sykes sassy witch
low-income sex booty
well-spoken Issa Rae less
hotep beautiful Hottentot Venus sex
chickenhead thick Alice Walker queen
dead sex just a friend
Shonda Rhimes trouble sick sex mean
hair bell hooks single
dying tragic
sex help carefree chocolate
special exotic sex ratchet
Felicia loud lost

Please Wait
(Or, There Are More Beautiful Things Than Beyoncé)

Please wait to record *Love Jones* at 8:48 Saturday on BET
Until your life is no longer defined by Beyoncé
Ants crawling over fallen leaves and little pieces of dog shit
Empty chicken boxes glowing with the remembrance of grease
There are more beautiful things than Beyoncé: self-awareness,
Leftover mascara in clumps, recognizing a pattern
This is for all the grown women out there
Whose countries hate them and their brothers
Who carry knives in their purses down the street
Maybe they will not get out alive
Maybe they will turn into air or news or brown flower petals
There are more beautiful things than Beyoncé:
Lavender, education, becoming other people,
The fucking sky
It's so overused because no one's sure of it
How it floats with flagrant privilege
And feels it can ask any question
Everyday its ego gets bigger and you let that happen
But one day your shit will be unbelievably together
One day you'll care a whole lot you'll always take vitamins
And exercise without bragging and words will fit perfectly
Into your mouth like an olive soaked in gin
The glory of an olive soaked in gin & its smooth smallness
A gloss will snowfall onto your cheeks, the top of your lip
The sidewalks will be the same, evidenced
Combing your records you'll see the past and think OK
Once I was a different kind of person

Copyright © 2017 by Morgan Parker.
Reprinted by permission of ICM Partners.

alumni news



THE GODDESS OF WISDOM

Students in Butler Library pass under the watchful eye of Athena, depicted in Eugene Francis Savage's *Videbimus Lumen*. The book *A Guide to Columbia University With Some Account of Its History and Traditions*, published in 1937 and edited by John William Robson '35, says of the 1934 mural, "A figure of Athene in white is depicted warding off two devils, symbolic of malevolent influence and disorder. The flying figures at the right represent divinity, the sciences, and the arts. Below is a group symbolic of modern occupations: agriculture, industry, and intellectual endeavor. Behind the figure of Athene is the skyline of lower Manhattan."

PHOTO BY SCOTT RUDD

Contents

38 CCAA Message

39 Alumni in the News

40 Bookshelf
Bed-Stuy is Burning, by Brian Platzer '04

42 Lions
Juliette Finzi Hart '96, Alicia Yoon '04, David Heim '68

45 Class Notes
Just Married!

84 Obituaries
Ray Robinson '41

88 The Last Word



JAIME DANIES SEAS'20

Building a Stronger Community Through "Odyssey" Mentoring

By Michael Behringer '89

Jaime Prieto '83, of Ogilvy & Mather, talks with students at the Odyssey Mentoring Program kickoff.

In the musical *Hamilton,* the Schuyler sisters sing of the wonders happening in New York City in Summer 1776:

Look around, look around at how
Lucky we are to be alive right now!
History is happening in Manhattan and we just happen to be
In the greatest city in the world!

While the reference is to New York's role in the birth of our nation, Lin-Manuel Miranda's lyrics make me think of the exciting things happening at Columbia today.

By all measures, Columbia is on a roll. This fall, Columbia College claimed the number 2 spot in the 2018 *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* College Rankings report. In October, the 2017 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was awarded to Joachim Frank, professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics and of biological sciences. In Manhattanville, the first buildings have come to life on our new 17-acre campus. The Class of 2021, with a 5.8 percent acceptance rate, is a testament that Columbia is one of the most desirable places for undergraduate study in the world. And of course, many of us enthusiastically followed the renaissance of our football team under Coach Al Bagnoli. They finished the year with an 8–2 record and the number 2 spot in the Ivy League — their best season in more than 20 years!

How lucky we are to be Lions right now!

Alumni play an important role in Columbia's continued successes. Our engagement and financial support directly help our students and faculty and advance the College's mission. (Indeed, alumni engagement is one of several factors evaluated in some college rankings.) Thank you all for your support for and involvement with alma mater. Your efforts have an impact.

While we have much to celebrate, it's worth noting that today's undergraduates face a unique set of challenges and obstacles, far different than we experienced while on campus.

At the October Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors' meeting, members met with **John MacPhee '89, PH'12,** executive director and CEO of The Jed Foundation. The foundation is a nonprofit established by **Phillip Satow '63** and his wife, **Donna Satow GS'65,** whose mission is to protect the emotional health of and prevent suicide among our nation's teens and young adults. The foundation is working closely with Dean James J. Valentini to develop a comprehensive strategic wellness plan for Columbia undergraduates.

The statistics reported by The Jed Foundation are alarming. Nationwide, one of every four young adults has struggled with an anxiety disorder; depression rates among teens are up 37 percent since 2005; and suicide and accidental overdose are the leading causes of death among young adults, taking 44 lives per day. Columbia students are not immune to these trends.

Fostering connectedness and belonging on campus is one of the cornerstones of the foundation's approach to promoting mental health. In that vein, the CCAA board believes that regularly creating the opportunity for more meaningful alumni and student connections is a way to strengthen the sense of Columbia community. And one of the College's most recent initiatives — the Odyssey Mentoring Program — does precisely that.

Odyssey, which launched in September, seeks to connect our 50,000-plus alumni in an easy and dynamic way with students and fellow alumni for long-term mentoring relationships or short and informal connections. It is a valuable resource for both alumni and students. Through Odyssey, students can leverage our diverse and vibrant alumni community for advice on academics, career and/or basic life choices, while alumni can foster and maintain connections with students and fellow alumni, thereby creating a stronger community as a whole.

As CCAA president, I am regularly asked how alumni can get involved and meaningfully connect with fellow alumni and/or students. Odyssey is just such an opportunity. Hundreds of alumni have signed up so far, but we currently have more students than available mentors. Plus, with a student population as diverse as ours, we need as many mentors as possible to ensure that every background, profession and interest is represented. Your involvement will not only enrich the College community but also make a difference in the lives of individual students. It's a tangible way you can help the College remain a top institution for generations to come while contributing to the dean's priority of supporting students in all facets of their lives.

More on the Odyssey Mentoring Program can be found at odyssey.college.columbia.edu. You also can reach out to Alumni Mentoring Committee co-chairs Scott Koonin '02 (scott.koonin@gmail.com) and Sherri Wolf '90 (sherriwolf@alum.mit.edu). They, and I, welcome your involvement.

ROAR!

Six College alumni made this year's *Forbes* "30 Under 30" list. In the Finance category are **Lalit Gurnani '11** (associate at Goldman Sachs) and **Salim Hirji '11** (principal at Apollo Global Management); in Social Entrepreneurs is **Ebele Ifedigbo '10** (cofounder of The Hood Incubator, which "helps transition underground cannabis sellers to legal markets" as cannabis becomes legal across the country); in Media is **Peter Sterne '14** (senior reporter for the Freedom of the Press Foundation); in Marketing/Advertising is **Shirley Chen '10** (founder of Narrativ, a startup that uses "artificial intelligence to enable retailers to bid for clicks on product links in editorial content") and in Hollywood & Entertainment is **Sabaah Folayan '13** (a director and producer who co-directed the police brutality documentary *Whose Streets?*).



MICHAEL NAGLE

Playwright **Terrence McNally '60** and his husband, Tom Kirdahy, were featured on November 15 in *The New York Times*' new series "It's No Secret," which highlights couples "who share thoughts about commitment and what they have learned about themselves and each other along the way."

College alumni also appeared on televisions across America this past fall. **Meghan McCain '07** joined the cast of *The View* as a co-host on October 9. On October 20, Dr. **Jennifer Ashton '91, PS'00, HN'16** was named chief medical correspondent for ABC News. **Cara Buono '93** appeared on the hit Netflix series *Stranger Things*, which debuted its second season on October 27. And on November 17, **Buzzy Cohen '07** won the *Jeopardy!* Tournament of Champions, taking home the $250,000 grand prize.

In music news, producer and former Vampire Weekend band member **Rostam Batmanglij '06** released his debut solo album, *Half-Light*, in September and **Nico Muhly '03**'s new opera, *Marnie*, opened at the English National Opera on November 18.

New York Times reporter **Jodi Kantor '96** made headlines when she broke the October 5 story "Harvey Weinstein Paid Off Sexual Harassment Cases for Years," exposing decades of accusations against one of Hollywood's top producers. Kantor also appeared on The Daily (a *Times* podcast) to discuss the story. Since then, she has filed several articles uncovering more allegations tied to Weinstein and other high-profile figures.

The National Institute of Social Sciences, one of the nation's oldest honorary societies, presented former University president **Michael I. Sovern '53, LAW'55** with a National Institute Gold Honor Medal on November 14.

Broadway is currently home to quite a few Lions: **Tom Kitt '96** did the orchestrations, arrangements and music supervision for the Broadway musical *SpongeBob SquarePants*, which began performances on November 6 and officially opened on December 4.



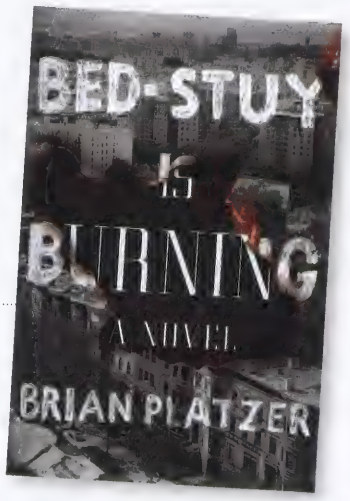
HUAN NGUYEN

Jin Ha '13 stars as Song Liling in the Broadway revival of *M. Butterfly*, directed by Julie Taymor and written by Professor David Henry Hwang, head of the School of the Arts' playwriting concentration; the show opened October 7. Playwright (and *House of Cards* creator) **Beau Willimon '99, SOA'03**'s new work, *The Parisian Woman*, opened on Broadway on November 30 and stars Uma Thurman and Josh Lucas.



JORG MEYER

bookshelf

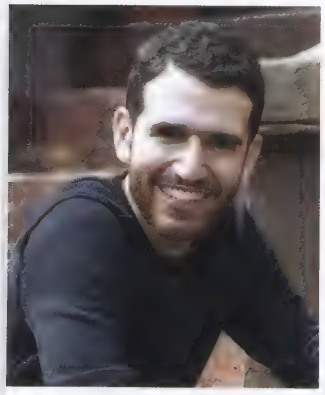


A Street Burns in Brooklyn

By Jill C. Shomer

It would be a bold choice to unpack topics like gentrification, white privilege and police brutality in your first novel at any time; at this particular moment, it's downright audacious. But **Brian Platzer '04** went there, and his debut, *Bed-Stuy is Burning* (Atria Books, $26), has drawn praise for walking a fine line. *Kirkus* called it "eminently readable" while *The Wall Street Journal* noted his deft navigation of clashing points of view. Author Alice McDermott even declared the book "a *Bonfire of the Vanities* for Millennials."

Bed-Stuy is Burning tells the story of the escalating tensions that follow the fatal police shooting of an unarmed 12-year-old in the eponymous Brooklyn neighborhood, in the voices of a mixed group of residents: Aaron and Amelia, brownstone owners new to the block; their tenant, Daniel; their nanny, Antoinette; a neighbor, single father Jupiter; and rebellious local teenager Sara. Though it's a work of fiction, actual streets, subway stops and restaurants are named; writer and educator Ta-Nehisi Coates is referenced; and former NYPD commissioner William Bratton even narrates a few chapters.



LAUREN SILBERMAN

The real-life inclusions came naturally to Platzer, who lives in the neighborhood he's writing about and was motivated by what he saw happening around him. "Around 2010 I began to notice black teenagers, with increasing frequency, being handcuffed by police on the subway platform near my home," he says. "I couldn't shake the thought that something was going to explode out of these fraught interactions." Though he is outwardly most like his character Aaron, a lapsed rabbi, Platzer spent two years doing extensive research to ensure he could properly speak in other voices. The background work included interviews with a diverse group of neighbors, police, local high school kids and teachers.

Still, the book has raised a few eyebrows, and Platzer has had to respond to pushback that he isn't the right person to tell this story. "I get that people don't want a white person to tell the story of groups that white people have oppressed," he says. "I respect that argument but I disagree — to say that there is a certain story that only a certain type of person is qualified to tell, you're creating divides. That someone is so much the 'other' that I can't invent or imagine their thoughts — it strips the humanity away from them. That would mean literature can't be an exercise in empathy, that you're forced just to focus on your own experience."

Platzer, a native New Yorker, deferred Columbia for a year after high school and spent six months teaching English in Thailand and six months working at a fashion magazine in Paris. He found that city "devastatingly lonely"; to pass the time, he wrote.

At the College, he double-majored in French lit and English lit and continued to write. "The intellectual excitement was unbelievable," he says. "It was a wonderful time. I've tried to prolong that life as a creative person." He read constantly; he says he particularly enjoyed contemporary American fiction. "A lot of people read books to escape and experience other worlds," he says, "but I like novels that describe people and worlds I know, and that get deep and honest into people's minds. I fell in love with James Baldwin, Dave Eggers, Denis Johnson, Philip Roth."

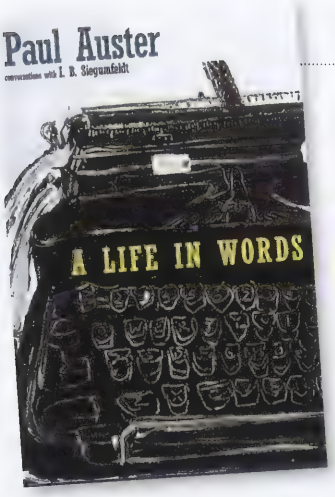
Platzer found focus in a personal essay class taught by Leslie Sharpe GSAS'73: "I wrote from the standpoint of a distorted version of me, and it opened my eyes to the way I wanted to be writing. I am interested in fictional characters that are slightly more extreme in their decision making." To that end, some of his *Bed-Stuy* characters could be considered unlikeable; or as he says, "not the type of likeable that people who are accustomed to reading first novels written by Brooklynites are anticipating.... But I wanted everyone to be recognizably selfish. The ugly hidden thoughts interest me more."

Platzer met his wife, Alexandra Hardiman '04, in his first year at the College, when they were both living in John Jay. They have two children, ages 2 and 4.

Platzer teaches part time, at the Grace Church School in Manhattan. His students are middle schoolers, ages 12–14; he says he especially enjoys teaching that age group. "They are the most excited to be taught," he says. "They want to be taken seriously and I present them with serious material. Right now I'm teaching them *Night* by Elie Wiesel."

He is also at work on a new novel; like *Bed-Stuy is Burning*, this tale takes place close to home — in his own body. In 2010, Platzer started experiencing constant dizziness; a year later he was diagnosed with vestibular migraines. Though his symptoms are mostly relieved with medication, he still struggles and can only write for short periods. The novel, to be published by Simon & Schuster, is told from the point of view of the wife of a man dealing with a debilitating neurological disorder.

When not writing or teaching, Platzer has been doing readings from *Bed-Stuy* in schools, bookstores and Jewish centers. "This whole thing has been a dream," Platzer says. "I've been trying to create the architecture for this life for more than a decade."



A Life in Words: A Conversation with Paul Auster '69 and Dan Simon '79

By Jill C. Shomer

In October, *Columbia College Today* spoke with author **Paul Auster '69,** publisher **Dan Simon '79** and former College professor of English and comparative literature Michael Wood in the green room of the Union Square Barnes & Noble. The three men were connected by Auster's newest release, *A Life in Words,* a written conversation about Auster's art and craft, compiled from three years of dialogue with University of Copenhagen Professor I.B. ("Gitte") Siegumfeldt. The book was published by Simon's company, Seven Stories Press, and Wood was to interview Auster about the work that evening at the bookstore. At the time, Auster's novel *4321,* which follows main character Archibald Ferguson along four synchronous but different life paths, had recently been short-listed for the Man Booker Prize.

What follows is an excerpt of the conversation; the full story can be read on The Latest's "Like Minds" at college.columbia.edu/cct/latest/minds, and the interview at Barnes & Noble can be viewed at facebook.com/sevenstories/videos.

CCT: **Paul, in 2010 you told *The Telegraph*: "Unless it's absolutely urgent, there's no point in writing."**

Paul Auster '69: That's true! I've been saying that since I was 16 years old!

CCT: **What felt urgent for you about your most recent books?**

Auster: It's not something you can actually articulate. It's something that grabs hold of you — it's as if an invisible phantom has his hands around your throat and he's telling you you've got to do this or else you're going to die [laughs].

CCT: **[Laughs] So how long was the phantom of *4321* on you?**

Auster: I spent only about three years on this enormous book. I was expecting six or seven when I launched into it. I was so dug in; I did the whole thing in a trance, I realize. I look back and I can barely believe I did it. It's as if those three years are erased from my life.

Michael Wood: Did you go through each "life" of your character [in the novel] sequentially?

Auster: The way you read the book is how I wrote the book. I can't write a book out of sequence because I don't know what I'm doing. I have to write the first sentence, then the second, then the third, all the way to the last. I can't jump around, because everything that has led up to the sentence I'm writing at that moment is important.


JILL SHOMER

Left to right: Former College professor Michael Wood, Paul Auster '69 and Dan Simon '79.

CCT: **Is it the same when you're writing a memoir?**

Auster: Yes, everything is the same. Find that first sentence. It's usually the way in.

Dan Simon '79: And many, many drafts? Or no?

Auster: No, not so many. I work paragraph by paragraph. I work in a notebook with a pen and I keep writing the paragraph over and over until I'm happy with it. Or seem to be. And then I type it up on my typewriter and I look at it clean, and I start attacking it again. Fixing, crossing out, changing. And when I can't do any more with it, I put the typed page in the folder with the other typed pages, then I go back to the notebook and write the next paragraph.

Wood: There's a great passage in *A Life in Words* about writing being a job you can't take breaks from.

Auster: It's the only way to justify this to myself. Why would anyone want to do this? Sit alone in a room all day every day for your whole life. I think writing literature of any kind, you have to give everything all the time. You can't hold back. In most professions, you don't have to give a maximum effort all the time. But as an artist, you do. There's a moral quality to it, giving that effort, that makes it feel like you're not wasting your time. I'm still learning and trying to figure it out.



MARK RIGHTMIRE / ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Oceanographer Juliette Finzi Hart '96 Shows the (Virtual) Reality of Climate Change

By Nathalie Alonso '08

Imagine seeing your favorite beach swallowed by the ocean. Your distress — the visceral kind of reaction that spurs people to action — is what oceanographer **Juliette Finzi Hart '96** is looking to elicit from residents of Southern California through the use of virtual reality.

Hart, director of outreach at the U.S. Geological Survey's Pacific Coastal and Marine Science Center, films 360-degree videos that show SoCal beaches as they are expected to look with higher sea levels. During king tides — the highest tides of the year, which serve as proxies for future everyday conditions — she captures dramatic images of flooded beaches using a device equipped with 16 GoPro action cameras, and then uploads the videos to YouTube. Using an inexpensive virtual-reality headset, viewers can feel as though they are standing on their local beach some 30 years from now.

Hart, who joined USGS in July 2016, also helped create a temporary virtual-reality installation on the Santa Monica Pier. Known as The OWL, it consisted of two free-standing viewers, similar to coin-operated binoculars, each containing a tablet. From November 2016 to January 2017, visitors were able to peer into the viewer to see how sea level increases will transform the iconic area.

Patrick Barnard, research director for the Climate Impacts and Coastal Processes Team at USGS, lauds the way Hart has embraced technology and innovation. "She immerses the audience in the challenges our coastal communities face, making it personal," he says. "These VR experiences burn into people's memories and move them toward understanding and action far better than any flat map or bullet point on a PowerPoint slide can."

Hart's outreach efforts also include more conventional methods. She regularly speaks to government agencies, city councils, citizen organizations, students and other groups about the dangers of climate change. Her presentations are based on USGS's Coastal Storm Modeling System, or CosMos, which projects coastal flooding and erosion in California.

While the audiences change, the message is the same: Climate change and rising sea levels call for immediate response. For homeowners, that might involve flood-proofing their properties, while for city planners, it might mean updating infrastructure. As part of those conversations, Hart often finds herself clarifying the connection between climate change and extreme weather events like Harvey, Irma and Maria, the powerful storms that devastated communities in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico, respectively, during the 2017 hurricane season.

"While you can't say a specific event is due to climate change," says

CCT Print Extras

To see the Santa Monica Pocket OWL and king tide videos, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.

Hart, "you can say the observed intensity of the recent 2017 hurricane season is consistent with what climate scientists have been predicting for years." Hart, who lives in Manhattan Beach, Calif., with her husband and two young daughters, majored in art history at the College and spent her first year after graduation working for an art consultant in London. Unfulfilled in that field and long interested in science, she started volunteering on whale-watching boats off Cape Cod, Mass., a place she frequented in the summertime while growing up in New Jersey.

A research position at the local Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies followed. There, in an effort to understand why endangered right whales were not better protected against ship strikes and entanglements, Hart discovered a disconnect between policymakers and scientists. With the goal of helping to bridge that gap, she earned a Ph.D. in ocean science at the University of Southern California. "Ultimately, I didn't want to be just in the lab," she says. "I wanted to be out there taking available science and helping people understand it."

Hart began working in outreach as an assistant research professor with USC's Sea Grant Program, which studies the interaction between the ocean and other bodies of water and the urban areas that surround them. It was there that she began dabbling in VR with the help of her husband, a web professional and gaming enthusiast.

Regardless of the medium, for Hart, making science accessible is the most rewarding part of her work. "It's always a really great feeling when I finish a presentation in which I feel I've connected with people and helped bring the science into their world," she says.

Nathalie Alonso '08, *from Queens, is a freelance journalist and an editorial producer for LasMayores.com, Major League Baseball's official Spanish language website. She is a regular contributor to* CCT.

K-Beauty Queen Alicia Yoon '04 Reigns Supreme

By Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09

Bamboo water. Fermented lotus. Snail secretions?

Korean Beauty — also known as K-beauty, the term for skincare products from South Korea — is shaking up the skincare industry with innovative ingredients and formulas, and **Alicia Yoon '04** has staked out a place at the forefront. The mogul behind K-beauty retailer Peach & Lily has focused on bringing the best products to the Western market since 2012. Last year, after turns in stores like Sephora and Urban Outfitters, Yoon brought K-beauty fully into the mainstream by partnering with pharmacy giant CVS, launching Korean products into more than 2,100 stores across the United States.

"One of the biggest ways that [K-beauty] is different," Yoon says, "is that it's all about the philosophy. In Korea, people know that you don't get beautiful skin overnight. It's something you need to work on over time. So a lot of the products are about a gentle, long-term approach that seeks to improve the skin from the inside out."



MYUNG HWAN YOON LAW'87

Yoon is not only the founder and force behind Peach & Lily, she's also the brand's social media face. Her Instagram account has more than 15,000 followers clamoring for a glimpse at her life (Peach & Lily's account has more than 78,000 followers). The Peach & Lily YouTube channel shows Yoon demonstrating products and giving tutorials; and pibuu, Peach & Lily's blog, tackles reader questions and details everything from Yoon's pre-wedding beauty regimen to her travel skincare routine. Yoon has especially focused on community building, noting that digital channels have transformed the beauty industry: "Before, it wasn't as easy for customers to talk to one another, and we're seeing that's something our customers really love to do. Categories like K-beauty have really benefited, as people share info about products they've discovered and what they love."

"I would give my friends facials and talk about skincare, even when I was at Columbia."

At the time of the company's founding as an online-only retailer, K-beauty wasn't a well-known category. "It took about a year and a half for there to be a tipping point," Yoon says. "At first it was all about the marketing and the education … but after that, because the products are so different and work so well and people really like them, [Peach & Lily] took off." Yoon has become a respected industry leader, offering beauty tips in *Vanity Fair*, having Peach & Lily products touted in *Allure* and, most recently, being named in *Marie Claire*'s 2017 Power Issue as one of 50 women changing the world.

Born in Korea but raised in the United States, Yoon and her family moved back to Korea during her high school years. She attended esthetician classes after school for fun, and there she learned how to

manage her eczema. From that experience her passion for Korean skincare methods was born. "I would give my friends facials and talk about skincare, even when I was at Columbia," she says. Yoon went into finance after graduation and earned an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School in 2010, but remained a self-professed "product junkie," eventually deciding to combine her interests in business and skincare to bring Asian products to new markets.

Yoon travels to Korea several times a year for in-person meetings with new companies' research and development teams, and personally tests all Peach & Lily products. The K-beauty maven is determined to help people achieve what she calls "that glow, that translucent radiance that only comes with healthy skin," by spreading her passion for innovative, long-term skincare solutions. And now you can get those results from a store near you.



HYE-RYONG MIN

David Heim '68 Turns Wood and Phrases

By Kate Antoniades

If **David Heim '68, JRN'75** were to see you cutting down a tree in your yard, he might politely ask you for some of the wood to turn. He likes maple "because it's easy to work with and it finishes beautifully." Cherry, too. He avoids tropical hardwoods, many of which contain the mineral silica, because, he says, "they're murder on tools" — and they're expensive.

Turning is shorthand for woodturning, and Heim has been an avid practitioner for almost 15 years. The craft involves attaching a rough piece of wood to a lathe, which rapidly spins the wood while the turner uses a sharp chisel to shape it. Heim made his first bowl in 2003. Curious about turning, he visited a lumberyard, bought some basswood and brought it to his father-in-law's workshop. "He's not a bowl-turner, so he didn't have the right tools, but I managed to make a bowl-shaped object nonetheless," Heim says. He was hooked.



DAVID HEIM '68

Today, Heim — who lives in Oxford, Conn., with his wife, Kate, and 34-year-old son, Theodore — spends 15–20 hours a week in a small shop above his garage (now equipped with all the right tools, including three lathes, a table saw, a drill press and a bandsaw). Bowls are his favorite things to make, and he points to one in particular — made of beech — as an example of what he loves about turning. The surface is covered with jagged, dark lines and looks like an old map of the world. "I knew that the wood was spalted — used as a cafeteria by various fungi — but I had no clue it would produce such a wonderful pattern until I had shaped the bowl," Heim says. "Surprises like that keep me going."

Heim sells some of his creations on Etsy (etsy.com/shop/davidheim), offering bowls, serving platters, shaving kits, vases and other items. His is a hobbyist operation, though his work doesn't take him far: He freelances for woodturning publications and has written two books: *Woodturning Patterns: 80+ Designs for the Workshop, Garden, and Every Room in the House* (2017) and *SketchUp Success for Woodworkers: Learn the Basics for Quickly and Accurately Creating 3D Designs*, due out this year. Now retired from a full-time career, Heim spent 28 years at *Consumer Reports* in various editor roles before his love of his craft took him to *Fine Woodworking* from 2005 to 2009. (His journalism roots lie with *Spectator*, for which he was managing editor and even helped to scoop *The New York Times* with a special issue on the Vietnam draft.)

Heim, who is on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Woodturners, has different ways of working with words and wood. "When I'm at the computer, writing something or editing, I've got a pretty good idea of what the finished product will be, and I have a pretty good idea of the path I have to follow," he says. "If I mount a piece of wood on the lathe, I have a vague idea of what's going to happen, but I have to let the wood guide me. I can't force a shape into a piece of wood sometimes because there's a flaw in the middle of the piece of wood and I have to work around that."

Kate Antoniades *is a freelance writer and editor in Rochester, N.Y.*

classnotes



WILL CSAPLAR '57, BUS'58 POSTCARD COLLECTION, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

UPTOWN VIEWS: How things have changed! Amsterdam Avenue looking north from 117th Street on a vintage postcard.

1941

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Dr. **Sherwin Kaufman** sent a note: "I entered Columbia College in 1937 as a pre-med, but in time discovered that my musical background as a serious classical pianist would take over. After I became an accompanist for the Columbia Glee Club, the director asked me to become a piano soloist on many of its programs! I soon found myself alone on stage, playing classical pieces such as Chopin's *Fantaisie-Impromptu* in large auditoriums. The totally unexpected experience was so terrifying that I quickly signed up for more pre-med courses. But music remained an integral part of my life. After retiring from the gratifying practice of infertility years ago, I became a songwriter, with awards for both music and lyrics."

Please consider sharing your story, news or even a favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either the email address or postal address at the top of the column. Classmates would be pleased to hear about you!

1942

Melvin Hershkowitz
22 Northern Ave.
Northampton, MA 01060-2310
DrMelvin23@gmail.com

I am sad to begin these notes with the death of my lifelong friend **Arthur Wiswall Wellington** PS'43 on July 29, 2017, at the hospice care unit of the Community Living Center in Bath, N.Y. I had a phone chat with Art on June 17, when he recognized me and sent greetings to surviving classmates. (See my Class Note about Art in the Fall 2017 issue.) Art was born in Troy, N.Y., in 1920 and graduated from Central H.S. in Syracuse, N.Y., in 1938. After graduating with our class in 1942, he earned an optometry

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of *CCT* prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of *CCT*, its class correspondents, the College or the University.

degree from Columbia in 1943 and then enlisted in the Marine Corps. He served in the Saipan and Okinawa campaigns as an artillery officer, with occupation duty in Nagasaki before his discharge with the rank of captain in 1946.

In May 1944, Art married his brilliant and devoted high school sweetheart, Marilynn Davidson. They settled down in Elmira, N.Y., in 1948, where Art began his lengthy and distinguished optometry practice, and with Marilynn raised four children: David, Sara, Steve and James. Art was president of the Elmira baseball team, the Pioneers, and was a part-time Major League scout and president of Kiwanis. He liked to act, and appeared in the Elmira Little Theatre productions of *Inherit The Wind* and *The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial.* He drove for Meals on Wheels, and in retirement he and Marilynn enjoyed many happy summers at their cottage in Tenants Harbor, Maine, where this writer and his wife, Leslie (now deceased), enjoyed a wonderful vacation with them in August 2003.

Art had very little money when he came to Columbia. He was a waiter in the legendary Chemists luncheonette on Amsterdam Avenue, in which this writer had breakfast for four years (a small OJ, a donut and a cup of coffee), and solidified my lifelong friendship with Art. We called him "Wizzer," a phonetic derivation of his middle name, Wiswall. He was indeed a Wiz as a horse racing handicapper, joining other horse-player classmates in the Certified Degenerate Horseplayers Club, placing wagers at an illegal bookie room in the back of a candy store at 106th Street and Amsterdam Avenue. Other members of this club were **Don "Dickie-Bird" Dickinson, Don Mankiewicz, Charles F. "Chic" Hoelzer** (all deceased) and this writer. In his nonagenarian retirement, Art was a skilled handicapper, often cashing long-odds exotic wagers such as exactas, trifectas and parlays at the Elmira OTB.

Art was predeceased by his loving wife, Marilynn, and is survived by his four children, seven grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. In a letter I wrote to Art's daughter, Sara, on August 13, I expressed my gratitude for my wonderful friendship of 79 years with Art, a rarity in anyone's life. Condolences and best wishes to all members of the Wellington extended family.

Dr. **Gerald Klingon** celebrated his 97th birthday on September 22 with his daughter Karen, his son-in-law Jerry and his son Robert. An honored guest was old pal Ray Robinson '41. They had a gala dinner at a local Chinese restaurant in Manhattan, where Gerry enjoyed his favorite dish, orange beef. Congrats to Gerry as he wends his way toward the centenarian society.

As I write these comments, the Columbia football team has won four consecutive games to open the 2017 season, defeating Wagner, Georgetown, Princeton and Marist. Our win over Princeton was the first since 1996. The rest of the Ivy League appears to be erratic and competitive, with Dartmouth looking like our best remaining opponent. Columbia appears to have a real chance to win the championship. Our Homecoming game vs. Penn on October 14, followed by Dartmouth in Hanover, N.H., on October 21, will be critical. [Editor's note: Columbia won both games!] We have a potential All-Ivy Quarterback in Anders Hill '18, an excellent passer with several gifted receivers, and a nationally ranked field goal kicker, Oren Milstein '20 (he kicked two 39-yarders vs. Marist). Compliments to Coach Al Bagnoli, his staff and our talented players as the season unfolds.

Best wishes and kind regards to all surviving classmates.

1943

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776

Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

G.J. D'Angio
201 S. 18th St., #1818
Philadelphia, PA 19103
dangio@earthlink.net

Michael F. Forlenza '78 reports that he enjoyed a relaxing seaside visit in September with his father, **Gerard A. Forlenza** SEAS'43, SEAS'48, in Southern Shores, N.C. Gerard, who goes by Jerry, splits his time between the family beach house he built on the Outer Banks and a home in Montclair, N.J.

Born in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, in 1923 to Italian immigrant parents, Jerry was raised in New Hyde Park on Long Island, N.Y., with five siblings. New Hyde Park was still a rural area during the Great Depression, with small farms and dirt roads. He recalled swimming in the sand pits excavated for aggregate for his father's construction business. In the summer, they would buy crates of grapes to press and make wine in the basement.

Jerry originally enrolled in the College in 1940 with the Class of 1944. After the Pearl Harbor attack and the start of WWII in December 1941, Columbia went to a trimester schedule to accelerate students toward graduation. Jerry was a letterman on the wrestling team in the 128- and 135-lb. weight classes. He wrestled for three years and was an Amateur Athletic Union champion.

Accelerated to graduate with the Engineering Class of 1943, Jerry earned a B.S. in chemical engineering. After trying unsuccessfully to join the Navy, he joined the Army and moved through a number of stateside locations during training, including Camp Upton in Yaphank, N.Y., Fort Leonard Wood in Pulaski County, Mo., and Fort Belvoir in Fairfax County, Va., for Officer Training School. As a lieutenant in the Army with the Corps of Engineers, he was sent to the West Coast by train for deployment. He recalled the train making a late-night stop in North Platte, Neb., where the citizens turned out with cake, coffee and sandwiches for the troops for what later became known as the North Platte Canteen. A touching experience.

After time at Camp Stoneman and Camp Beale in California, Jerry was deployed to New Guinea in the South Pacific. A series of assignments took him to Morotai, Leyte and Luzon when the war ended. On Luzon, in the Philippines, the troops had been preparing for the invasion of Japan when the war ended in August 1945 after the use of the atomic bombs. He recalled receiving the news of the end of the war with relief.

Jerry left the Army as a captain and returned to New York and Columbia to earn a master's in chemical engineering in 1947. While living in John Jay Hall, it was in Johnson Hall that he met Grace Caskin GSAS'48 from Danvers, Mass. Grace was studying history at Columbia under her adviser, Richard Hofstadter GSAS'42. Jerry and Grace married in 1950 and moved to Manhasset, N.Y., and later to Montclair, N.J., with five children. Grace, Jerry's wife of 58 years, passed away in 2008.

Jerry enjoyed a successful career as an executive in chemical engineering starting with Chemico, a worldwide engineering firm, in New York City in 1947. In 1950, he was recalled to duty by the Army during the Korean conflict. He received several temporary deferments, and finally a permanent deferment, due to his work as an engineer on a project for the Atomic Energy Commission.

Jerry worked at American Cyanamid for 30 years, becoming the president of several divisions, including the industrial chemicals division and the organic chemicals division. Later, he became president of Beker Industries in Connecticut. Subsequently, he was a joint founder with **Robert Schubert** SEAS'48 of Relectronics, a joint venture with Siemens AG of Germany, and was involved in numerous other ventures. He still is a private consultant through his corporation, Forge. The Forge name uses the first three letters of Forlenza and the initials of his wife, Grace Eleanor. Jerry is a board member of Adhesives Technology in New Hampshire.

Active for many years with Columbia alumni organizations of both the College and Engineering,



Send in Your News

Share what's happening in your life with classmates. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct,** or send news to the address at the top of your column.

Jerry was a founding member of the North New Jersey Columbia Alumni Association. Several of the first meetings were held in his living room in Montclair. He was for many years on the Engineering Development Council and chaired fund drives for both schools.

While on the Outer Banks this summer, Jerry enjoyed visits from his five children, Gerard Jr. '76, Michael '78, Francis, Grace and Catherine, and his five grandchildren.

Son Michael reports that Jerry is doing well, having only recently retired his unorthodox tennis game due to achy knees. He remains active by reading, consulting and rendering his opinion on a variety of subjects from politics to science, from weather to history. He is the prime agitator at weekly lunch gatherings in both North Carolina and New Jersey.

If there are any of the old guard out there, Jerry would love to hear from you. He can be reached by email at gforlenza@aol.com.

G.J. D'Angio: "Last summer was marred by my successive minor aches and pains in a peculiar distribution. It was further marred in July by my wife Dr. Audrey Evans' painful three broken ribs after a fall, aggravated by coughing episodes. Another bummer: My ocular inflammation and my store of prednisone tablets played yo-yo every two weeks during those months. Not the best times of the year.

"Otherwise, we had a most pleasant family gathering — seven adults and two great-grandchildren — for a week here in Philadelphia in late July/early August. Later, I was found to be profoundly anemic. Another bummer. Visits to the hematologist ensued. Rapid improvement after treatment with a bone marrow stimulant. Sense of well-being gained overnight, and sustained.

"Our plans for October included a trip to Washington, D.C.; Audrey and I [were] each to receive an award from the International Society of Pediatric Oncology.

"A Columbia nugget — Columbia greats in sport include, in football, Cliff Montgomery '34 (quarterback of the winning 1934 Rose Bowl game against favored Stanford [7–0]), Sid Luckman '39 and **Paul Governali.** In baseball, there was of course Lou Gehrig '23 but also Eddie Collins (Class of 1907). A baseball Hall of Famer, Eddie was the starting quarterback of the football team, too, until the sport was dropped in 1906. The great pitcher Sandy Koufax (né Sanford Braun) was another Lion. Any '43-er ever see Sandy pitch a no-hitter? Or any other great game? Let us hear."

Bernard Weisberger: "Shakespeare wrote, 'Summer's lease hath all too short a date,' and it surely does. I filed my previous *CCT* letter on July 17, and here I am almost precisely three months later, trying to recall the events of what seems to have been not only a very condensed but also uneventful summer. Nothing particular occurred in my life in July, but August yielded my 95th birthday. The oldest of my two daughters, Lise, who lives in and practices family medicine in nearby Skokie, Ill., granted my request that instead of a gift she invite her two siblings, their spouses and their children, i.e., my grandchildren, all seven of them grownups, here for a party. The target date I had in mind was the weekend closest to August 15 that they would all be available. That she did, and only one grandson and one son-in-law were unable to make it. The party was to be an outdoor picnic on the bonny banks of Lake Michigan. The only hitch was that I must have offended the gods in some way. No sooner were the franks, burgers and vegetables taken off the grill and the other goodies laid on the tables than it began to rain. It continued to do so until we gave up and transferred all of it back to Lise's home. It all nonetheless remained very edible, right down to the crowning touch of her strawberry shortcake, my annual favorite.

"The highlight of my September was a visit to Chicago's historic Auditorium Theater for a private reception and screening of excerpts from Ken Burns' latest documentary, *The Vietnam War*, done in collaboration with Lynn Novick. The entire show, 10 hours long, ran on PBS during all the rest of the month. I can't recommend it highly enough, but make it plain here that I am not unbiased. I have known and worked with Ken for more than 30 years. I have been one of his historical advisers and script writers on such presentations as *Statue of Liberty*, *The Congress*, *The National Parks*, *The Civil War* and *Baseball,* and it was a delight to see and hug him at the reception.

"And here we are on Columbus Day, and if I didn't feel sufficiently ancient already, two days ago my son turned 65.

"I intended to fill out this letter with some reminiscences of great Columbia teachers, but have recently participated in a new *CCT* online feature, 'Take Five,' that invited me to answer five questions about my experiences at Columbia, one of which asked for my most memorable classes, so I will pay my tributes there. [Editor's note: Go to bit.ly/2AujfJxto read it online.] Goodbye for now."

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

BC	Barnard College
BUS	Columbia Business School
CP	Pharmaceutical Sciences
DM	College of Dental Medicine
GS	School of General Studies
GSAPP	Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
HN	Institute of Human Nutrition
JRN	Graduate School of Journalism
JTS	Jewish Theological Seminary
LAW	Columbia Law School
LS	Library Service
NRS	School of Nursing
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
PS	College of Physicians and Surgeons
SEAS	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SOA	School of the Arts
SPS	School of Professional Studies
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College
UTS	Union Theological Seminary

1944

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Dr. **Daniel Choy** PS'49, director of Choy Medical Technologies and consultant to the Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute, writes: "Since graduation: P&S; USAF, Wright-Patterson AFB; invented Aeroplast (see Fall 2017 Class Notes); invented laser knife; ultrasound imaging; laser coronary angiogenesis (performed world's first such eight cases at the University of Toulouse); met Prime Minister Deng Hsiao Peng on transfer of laser technology trip, sponsored by President Carter to China, 1988; invented percutaneous disc herniation, did 8,000 cases, wrote textbook; invented an artificial heart sold to Dr. Eric Rose '71, chief of cardiac surgery at P&S; growth of coronary arteries in rabbits, dogs and pigs with a two-week infusion of basic fibroblastic growth factor in 1988 (to my knowledge this has not been replicated anywhere); invented a compression frame for X-rays of the spine; wrote an autobiography, *Choy's Luck: Shanghai to New York, a Life of Inventions, Medicine, and Adventure;* invented the first and only cure in 5,000 years for tinnitus and started this program at P&S, about to teach this technique to 2,251 medical schools worldwide for the treatment of one billion patients; offered to the VA with sponsorship from Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) for the Rx of its 170,000 veterans with blast-induced tinnitus, which costs the VA $2 billion a year; invited by Dr. Lawrence Lustig, the Howard W. Smith Professor of Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery and chair, Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery at P&S, to join him in sponsoring a new professorship in the use of stem cells for age-related deafness.

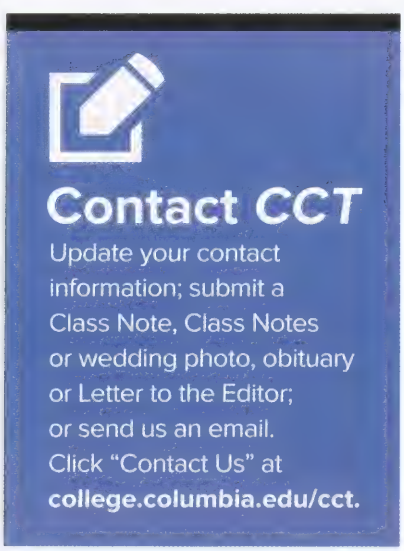
"Also am writing a biography of my father, Jun Ke Choy (Class of 1915), who was invited by President Grayson Kirk to contribute to Columbia's oral history on 'From Farm Boy to China's Envoy,' plenipotentiary to London and Paris to negotiate the return of the Boxer Indemnity Scholarship Program, after the rebellion; and a second career as a San Francisco banker — he was awarded a Certificate of Honor by then-president of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Dianne Feinstein in 1971. I hope this book will be published by Columbia University Press."

CCT, and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you, too. Please consider sharing news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1945

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

No news to share this quarter! *CCT,* and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you. Please consider sharing news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.



1946

Bernard Sunshine
165 W. 66th St., Apt. 12G
New York, NY 10023
bsuns1@gmail.com

Happy 2018, Class of '46. Please send your news to the addresses above. I hope you have a wonderful start to the new year.

1947

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

No news to share this quarter! *CCT,* and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you. Please consider sharing news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1948



Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

A note from former class correspondent **Durham Caldwell**, with some thoughts on the Fall 2017 column: "Nice to read **Ed Paul**'s long treatise in the Fall issue. Congratulations to Ed on resurrecting his dream of becoming an architect and for doing it so successfully — and to his wife, Judy, for her role in getting him back on track.

"I may be wrong. Memory fades. But I think I was in a Colloquium class with Ed (Professors Szathmary and Frame) in the Fall semester of 1946. The way I remember it, Ed was absent from class one evening but sent along with a classmate the paper he was due to read. I can't remember whether the classmate or Professor Szathmary read the paper, but I do remember Szathmary picking it apart, Ed (I think it was Ed) arriving late and identifying the paper as a typed version of the scholarly printed introduction to the book that was the subject of the evening's discussion and Szathmary becoming close to speechless.

"Ed, am I remembering that episode correctly?

"Also congratulations to **Dick Hyman** on his honorary doctorate from Juilliard. Nice to have classmates aside from the late **Allen Ginsberg** getting academic attention.

"And a comment on **Sylvain Bromberger**'s remark that he 'had no real sense of belonging to a specific class. Most of us were veterans,' trying to make up for time spent in the armed forces. When I was writing this column 14 or 15 years ago, I referred to us as a 'bastard class' for that very reason."

Dr. **Robert Feulner** writes: "I have eagerly awaited the arrival of the quarterly issue of *CCT* for years and would like to be a contributor to the magazine.

"My education at Columbia University and its college are responsible for all I have been able to achieve since graduation.

"While attending the High School of Music & Art, then on West 135th Street, I played trumpet in New York City professionally. This included employment in the Columbia University orchestra and band. Most memorable are performing in the 'pit' orchestra for the initial performances of Gian Carlo Menotti's opera, *The Medium,* at Columbia.

"Perhaps my years at Columbia College are most memorable because of the companionship made available to me by older and more mature members of the student body, many of whom had served the country in the Armed Forces during WWII. Most important is the education I received after my education at Columbia. I obtained my M.D. from the NYU/Bellevue Medical Center. Shortly after graduation, I was hospitalized and treated with medicine and surgery for pulmonary tuberculosis. This led to training in the less physically demanding specialty of radiology. After 25 years of practice at Waukesha Memorial Hospital and 10 years at Froedtert Memorial Hospital/Medical Hospital of Wisconsin, I retired from medical practice in 1995.

"My wife, a retired nurse anesthetist, and I have raised five children. We have traveled extensively and I am a Three Diamond Class Sailplane pilot.

"To this day, I am extremely grateful for all Columbia has done for me and for the wonderful job you are still doing — refreshing my memory of times gone by, the education I received and the friendships that have made my life so fruitful."

CCT, and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you, too. Please consider sharing news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1949

John Weaver
2639 E. 11th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11235
wudchpr@gmail.com

This all began in September 1988, when my phone rang and a voice I instantly recognized — despite not having heard it for 40 years — said "Moe, how are you. This is Marv …"

Allow me to recall this event because I want to share with you all how meaningful this moment was. It is impossible for me to understand how **Marvin Lipman**'s voice was so recognizable after all the years. I like to think that the environment in which we were all so nurtured for those four years at college made an imprint far more profound than we were able to understand at the time. Marv invited me to attend the initial planning meeting for our 40th reunion, in May 1989. It was the beginning of my involvement, which has been uninterrupted ever since. And the privilege I enjoy as your class correspondent has only enhanced the significance of that phone call.

And now Marv has done it again. It began with his email simply asking us (several classmates in the address line) if we were planning to attend the Homecoming game this past fall. The call generated responses from

classmates who, while not planning to attend the game, did provide us with an update on their lives. It was a reassurance that the best effort to make this a better world is a pursuit we are all following.

Your correspondent was prepared to write another plea for responses from classmates, until Marv popped up with his inquiry. Instead, the following email exchange was joyfully received.

From **Bill Lubic:** "Hi all. Had we known of a plan earlier, we may have joined in. We gave it a try at the 'virtual' Dean's Day (now called All-Class Reunion) last spring, but couldn't make it. Back a couple of football seasons ago I attended a D.C. dinner benefit for the 'Bubble' with Coach Al Bagnoli, local CCs and **Gene Rossides.** We all decided to help and were happy with the enthusiasm and the enormous courage required for a football rehab, although a little less sanguine about prospects. Certainly our recruitment success since has been amazing. Football is not everything by any stretch, but in our country it's important to be respectfully competitive, at least from time to time. I must add that it was pure genius to recruit the team's leading scorer from the Florida Swampland! Although I am a Penn Law grad, my stripes are still blue and white.

"My wife, Ruth, and I are bumping along fine. She manages her Type-2 diabetes nicely but can't fly (Eustachian tube issues), so we have entrained to New York often, and throughout the East and as far as Chicago. We planned to be in New York City at a CC dinner on October 26. As Ruth is considered 'inspirational,' the Yale School of Nursing-Midwifery invited her to do a class session in New Haven. Who remembers the Forty-Niner 30th Reunion (1979) when Ruth gave her patented N-Midwifery lecture to a section of our class, with curious attention?

"Living in Washington, D.C., has been fine. It is a busy, lovely (green) place with think tanks galore. A boon is C-SPAN — thank **Bob Rosencrans** BUS'52 for his foresight — there are three channels. D.C. is at our political core and current events seem to daily beat harder here with increasing gravitas. Sadly, not alone, we both have come to the conviction that the world and democratic institutions we have known are in a stage of monumental crises. Now in our 90s, and having fulfilled obligations to those nearest and dearest, we intend together to continue our long pro bono commitment to public service and advancing public good, and then some.

"No, we are definitely not announcing the intention to run for or seek public office, and any such offer will be respectfully declined."

From **Joe Russell:** "Bill, it was a delight to hear from you today (and thereby my only notice that the Homecoming game was coming up, on a day not free), and regret that we no longer get to see each other and hoist a glass together, so this evening my wife, Charlotte, and I will raise one to you and Ruth. Meanwhile, in our 10th decade, we are quite limited in what we can do about it, and I keep moderately busy as a securities arbitrator for FINRA, now in my 29th year of post-retirement activity that I began with its NYSE predecessor and still find sufficiently stimulating to keep me on my lawyerly toes. The only annoying part is the subway trip to lower Broadway each way during the rush hours; the crowds have gotten far worse than you might remember, and train delays occur too often; you might have read of that lately.

"Our older son (64) has entered a phased retirement from his Harvard professorial duties and moved to Fresno a bit more than a year ago, where he has added gardening to his active study and writing of academic papers on a variety of subjects close to his heart. He also spent the month of September giving a series of lectures at the University of St. Petersburg, followed by a week as an invited lecturer at the University of Moscow, a most fruitful and enjoyable visit for him. Our grandson, his nephew, will soon apply to various colleges, Columbia high among them, and we quietly hope for many reasons it will be where he will go. Join me in the hope — he has been a brilliant student all the way. His father, our younger son (60) remains a busy and beloved middle school history teacher who keeps his students alive with close interest and discussions; many of them come back to visit long after graduation.

"So life has its compensations for age, no? With warmest wishes for your continued good health and lives, Joe Russell."

From **Marvin Lipman:** "Not to be outdone by the rhetoric and brilliant prose of my esteemed classmates, I herewith submit a few well-chosen words. I will be the lone representative of our class at Homecoming if I can make it up the hill from where the Columbia-hired bus leaves us (my wife, Naomi Lipman BC'51, GSAS'52 would never let me go alone — not the world's most rabid football fan, she brings *The New York Times* crossword puzzle with her) at the corner of Broadway and West 218th Street. The so-far record of 4–0 has renewed my interest and has confirmed my thoughts about what a good coach can do.

"Meanwhile, in my real life, I continue to practice (it's impossible to ever think of being perfect) medicine with the Scarsdale Medical Group, just as I have done for the last 56 years. Of the six founding fathers (no founding mothers in those days), I am the last man standing. The group has now expanded to well over 50 members.

"New York Medical College, where I am a professor of clinical medicine, some time ago granted me emeritus status, so I have been relieved of my teaching obligations. My work with *Consumer Reports*, as chief medical adviser for the magazine, the monthly health letter and its large online presence, goes on and on, what with writing, editing and, of course, advising. Our magazine recently won a coveted award from *Folio* for a 2016 cover story, 'Supplements: A Complete Guide to Safety.' Our reporting on health and medicine reaches millions of people each month.

"Naomi keeps busy as a freelance copyeditor. Her major opus is the program for each of the several concerts sponsored by the Westchester Chamber Music Society. She and I take great delight in our three grandchildren: a budding cellist, a way-ahead-of-his-time composer and recorder artist, and the oldest, a percussionist, who recently started college at The Berklee College of Music in Boston. Well, that's about all I can muster for the present. Go Lions!"

From me: I continue my work with the nonprofit PortSide NewYork. We are berthed in the Atlantic Basin in Red Hook, Brooklyn. Headquartered on the retired coastal tanker *Mary A. Whalen*, we continue our efforts on behalf of New York's waterfront and waterways. Our internships and school visits bring kids from grade 2 through high school, where they learn about the working waterfront and ship restoration, and they are introduced to marine career opportunities in a hands-on experience. Among our most proud achievements is the growing NYC ferry effort, for which we were strong and successful advocates. I invite you all to visit our website (portsidenewyork.org) to learn more about our endeavors.

Keep the cards and letters coming. By the time of this reading we imagine Winter is here. Stay warm and give a thought to 2019; it will be our 70th!

Dr. Robert Feulner '48 says, "My education at Columbia University and its college are responsible for all I have been able to achieve after graduation."

1950

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

From **Hubert "Buddy" Brandt:** "Still the tax assessor's nemesis. More and more I hear, 'Are you still around?' Glad I can hear at all. I have to work to pay off my student loans — tuition was $15/point when I was on campus. I head three generations of Columbia College alumni — the fourth is nearly 1. I wonder what her tuition will be?

"Got a thrill last winter at seeing my granddaughter inducted into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame (Jenny Brandt '09, for the 2006 women's soccer team).

"Yea for our football team! Almost as exciting as when Gene Rossides '49 and Bill Swiacki '49 snapped Army's

streak. That dates me. I wonder how many of us '50s are still around? Call me: 212-563-2200.

"Go, Light Blue!"

1951

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

David Zinman JRN'52 writes: "News stories reporting the turmoil over U.S.-Russia relations recall the fiery emotions that blazed during the first school integration in the Deep South.

"It happened in 1960 in New Orleans. It made front-page headlines. Centuries-old southern tradition — segregation — was under attack.

"All the white parents but two — a young Methodist minister and an immigrant lady from Central America — withdrew their kids after a federal judge ruled that two black first-graders could attend the all-white school.

"As a cub reporter with the Associated Press, I covered the story. I walked alongside the minister and his 5-year-old daughter. I had no idea what would happen. But we got a lucky break. The Korean War was ending and I had just been discharged from the Navy. I wore my dark navy raincoat and a black fedora. Protesters mistook me for a priest and let us pass.

"I was not surprised that the minister had the courage to defy the mob. But I wondered why Mrs. Gabrielle was willing to stand up for her principles. She risked losing all her neighbors. She said four words I never forgot.

"'Neighbors change,' she said. 'Principles don't.'"

[Editor's note: You can view a photo of David walking with the minister and his daughter on the AP website: bit.ly/2hgyTjt.]

CCT, and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you, too. Please consider sharing news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

Stay in Touch

Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name: college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect.

1952

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Joseph Di Palma reports that he was named a Lifetime Achiever in the 2017 *Marquis Who's Who*, the world's premier publisher of biographical profiles.

Howard Hansen writes, "See the nearby photo taken at Naval Amphibious Training Base in Little Creek, Va., in 1953, featuring Capt. Phil Bucklew SIPA'48 (former Columbia assistant football coach), me, **Gerry Audette, Bill Wallace, Vern Wynott, Gerry Cozzi** and **Wes Bomm.** Bill and I were both lieutenant JGs at Little Creek and we put together the 'Shipwreck Sand Festival,' inviting Columbia friends. Vern and Bill were teammates of mine at Little Creek under football coach Phil for another two years in the Service League Football, which was big-time during those years."

Bucklew was a talented football player, playing with the Cleveland Rams 1937–39, then founding and playing for the Columbia Bulldogs until the attack on Pearl Harbor. He was one of the first 10 Scouts and Raiders and assisted in leading the invasion of North Africa in November 1942, the invasion of Sicily in July 1943, the invasion of Italy at Salermo in September 1943 and the D-Day invasion in Normandy in June 1944. He served as commanding officer of Beach Jumper Unit TWO at NAB Little Creek 1951–56.



A 1953 photo taken at NAB Little Creek, Va. Standing, left to right: Phil Bucklew SIPA'48, Howard Hansen '52, Gerry Audette '52 and Bill Wallace '52; and kneeling, left to right: Vern Wynott '52, Gerry Cozzi '52 and Wes Bomm '52.

Says Hansen, "Bucklew brought Wallace, Wynott, John Guerriero '53 and me to Little Creek. After his Little Creek assignment he was sent to South Korea as commander in organizing Chinese guerrillas to offset Japanese infiltration (he masqueraded and was known as 'Big Stoop,' with a tin can hat when needed for survival)."

Bucklew served in the Navy until 1969 and was twice awarded the Navy Cross. He commanded SEAL Team One, formed in 1962, and is known as the "Father of U.S. Naval Special Warfare." The Phil Bucklew Naval Special Warfare Center, in Coronado, Calif., is named after him and it is the home of Naval Special Warfare training (including SEAL training). A bronze plaque in front of the building says, "Dedicated in honor of Captain Philip H. Bucklew for his heroic and lasting contributions to the inception and permanence of naval special warfare. This center of excellence is a lasting monument to his courage, foresight and leadership."

1953

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776

Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Lew Robins
3200 Park Ave., Apt. 9C2
Bridgeport, CT 06604
lewrobins@aol.com

On July 6 I received the following letter from our distinguished classmate **Ed Robbins:** "It's been a long time since we have been in contact. I thought I would bring you up to date about my family and me.

"Beverly and I celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary last summer with a dinner dance at the Harmonie Club in New York City. Joining us were **John Marchesi** and his wife, Rosanne, and **Marty Saiman** and Barbara Sheib.

"This past winter my family and I celebrated my 85th birthday with a similar party in Palm Beach, where we were again joined by John and Marty, as well as Rhoda and **Dick Kleid.**

"I retired from my business interests 24 years ago. However, I am still with the Skadden Arps law firm in New York, where I have been of counsel for almost 50 years.

"I am delighted to report that we have three children and 16 grandchildren, including two adopted and three step-grandchildren. One of my granddaughters graduated from the College in May 2016, after having been elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship. It was particularly important to me that as a University trustee emeritus, I was part of the president's procession at Commencement.

"I would love to hear from any of our classmates."

Gus Fulk sent the following note about his life in Little Rock, Ark.: "I was born and reared in Little Rock, an only child of Gus and Lois Fulk. I dated my future wife, Anne Bass, in high school; she graduated from Vassar and we were married soon after college. We had four children. Anne died in 2017. I served three years in the Navy in the Pacific Fleet. I'm a member of Christ Episcopal Church. My current hobbies include hunting, fishing, tennis and bridge.

"Even though I live in a retirement complex, I haven't given up my work as an investment broker with Stephens,

having spent more than 50 years in the investment business. I walk to work every day and return to be with friends during happy hour and dinner."

In a brief handwritten addition, Gus revealed that he gambles every day on the stock market and indicated that he is not pleased with his doctor's refusal to allow him to drive any longer.

Our 65th reunion is Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2. It's hard to believe! Please let me know if you would like to join our Reunion Committee for planning another wonderful event. We are hoping to duplicate our spectacular 60th reunion.

1954

Bernd Brecher
35 Parkview Ave., Apt. 4G
Bronxville, NY 10708
brecherservices@aol.com

Happy 2018, men of '54: Our 65th reunion is NEXT YEAR! As your "permanent" class president, as well as reunion chair "for life," while the pay has never been that good, I humbly request all of your input — suggestions, questions, Reunion Committee participation, critiques — on how to make our 65th the best ever. My mailbox awaits.

This past September, I (**Bernd Brecher** JRN'55, along with my wife, Helen, and one of our granddaughters, Maya) spent a week in Halberstadt, Germany, where I was born and later left as a child, participating in an unusual project called "Open Jewish Houses" (rough translation from the German). Before WWII the city had several thousand Jewish residents, but none following the Holocaust. About 25 years ago an organization comprising non-Jews, under the sponsorship of the Moses Mendelssohn Akademie, was formed to devote itself to keeping alive the history, culture and contributions of Germany's Jews. Members of several families whose homes were not destroyed were invited back — along with those now living there — to host afternoon open houses to share their experiences with guests; the event was widely advertised and covered by the media. I was interviewed by the local NPR station, covered by the local newspaper and even had my 10 seconds of fame on television. Locals, as well as attendees who drove from several hours away, spent a very open give-and-take with me in the garden of a birthplace that I hardly remembered. No topic was sacrosanct, including the murder of my father by a Nazi firing squad.

While this was a learning experience for us all, the most significant part for me was conducting two coeducational classes of 17- and 18-year-old students at Halberstadt's Kathe Kollwitz Gymnasium. The students asked some significant questions about history, bigotry and the Holocaust and got (I hope) some meaningful responses from me. No one held back; it was a revelation. I reminded them that they are not only the future of their country but — given what was happening in my country and just about everywhere — also of Europe and of the world. (Whew!) Even a meeting with the mayor — who asked about Trump — paled next to meetings with the students. As I told them all, paraphrasing the Washington, D.C., Holocaust Memorial Museum's message: "Never stop asking why."

Now for news about some classmates: **Edward Raab** says he is "still practicing, teaching, lecturing in my field of pediatric ophthalmology. I'm completing a six-year term on the Board of Governors of the American College of Surgeons. I organized the ophthalmology portion of its Annual Congress last year and this year. Also, I delivered the 2016 invited honor lecture at my specialty society's annual meeting."

Ed sends his best wishes to us all. And back to you, Ed.

Stan Datlow writes, "This 84-year-old Columbia Lion is still chugging along despite ill health. My spirits have been lifted by Columbia football and damaged by the current occupant of the White House. Best wishes to all, and I'm proud to be of your number."

Thanks, Stan, be well and remember that 85 is the new 65.

To which our class' David Letterman adds, "At the age of 85 I learned the difference between old and very old," writes **Saul Turteltaub.** "Old is when you have to get up three times during the night to pee. Very old is when you have to get up three times during the night to pee and you only get up twice. Old is when you can't remember your wife's maiden name. Very old is when you can't remember your wife's married name. And from reading the obituary columns first thing every morning hoping not to find friends in there I learned one of the greatest causes of death: loved ones. So many people died while surrounded by their loved ones. Stay home and give the sick a chance.

"And as a Christmas/Chanukah gift to my deeply missed classmates I give you a new word: A convert to or from Judaism is a *Transgentile*. Happy and healthy New Year to all of you."

Thanks, Saul, and to you and yours. A sense of humor, if not laughter, is listed as a requisite on most job descriptions these days; and do we need it.

Joel West (né Weinstein) writes, "Since you ask for comments on current politics, I thought I may have something to contribute. Democracies have historically been relatively short-lived, to be replaced by aristocracy and ultimately dictatorship. Witness the Roman Empire. I believe our democracy is becoming an aristocracy controlled by such rich people as the Koch brothers and their allies. To me the most serious change is the dismissal of scientific and factual reality, to be replaced by 'fake news.' Perhaps more serious is the undermining of efforts to protect against climate change in order to protect quarterly stock profits.

"Probably few in the Class of '54 remember me, as I transferred from the Class of '55 after my second year. I am a psychoanalyst, one of the rare breed of psychiatrists who still practice it. My daughter Laura (a Harvard grad) is a psycho-pharmacologist at Kaiser, and gave up her aspiration to become a psychoanalyst. My daughter Anne '90 is a graduate of UCLA Law. Both my daughters have a son and a daughter. My oldest granddaughter is graduating from Penn. Aside from advancing macular degeneration, my health remains stable. I learned of a treatment for the dry M.D. used in Parkinson's disease (Sinamet), which has led to significant improvement in my near vision and has slowed the progression of M.D.

"I think Columbia was truly transformative for me. A program in my year allowed me to take a proficiency exam and skip the basic courses. Thus I was able to obtain a broad-based education through graduate level courses with professors like Lionel Trilling '25, GSAS'38. I skipped so many basic courses and instead took [so many] graduate-level courses that I think I was responsible for Columbia ending that program. Such a shame."

Joel, you missed part of the Core; come back.

"My wife, Ann Louise, and I in September began a road trip from our place in northern New Hampshire to Bozeman, Mont., and back to our home in Washington, D.C.," writes **Edward Cowan.** "When friends in Montana invited us to visit, we saw that as an opportunity to add northern tier states to our ongoing 'See America' campaign (between 2000 and 2012 we saw baseball games in each of the 30 Major League ballparks). After spending several days with old friends in Toronto (where I was *The New York Times* correspondent 1967–72), we cut across southern Ontario, re-entered the United States in Michigan and drove north. We took the ferry (passengers only, no cars) to Mackinac Island in Lake Michigan and explored on foot.

After a fall visit to South Dakota, Ed Cowan '54 has now visited all 50 states, capping a count that began in June 1954.

"From there our westward route took us across Michigan's Upper Peninsula and through rural Minnesota. On to Bismarck, N.D., then west on Interstate 94 for a brief overview of Theodore Roosevelt National Park; two days later in our friends' home north of Bozeman, in the foothills of the Bridger Mountains, we awoke to a mid-September dusting of snow.

"The return leg of our trip took us through Cody, Wyo., up and over a 9,000-ft.-high mountain pass that was fogged in, to the elongated town of Sundance, Wyo., and into South Dakota. That was state number 50 for me, capping a count that I began in June 1954 when, with **Dick Evans** and **Dave Gerstein,** we drove a car for an auto dealer from Detroit to Los Angeles. The Black Hills of South Dakota were stunning, and the driving on narrow, serpentine roads was challenging. Mount Rushmore, difficult to get to, looked just like the photos and I was underwhelmed.

We then drove through Badlands National Park — and were rewarded handsomely. The jagged Badlands were the scenic highlight of the trip.

"Then on to Omaha, followed by Hannibal, Mo., where we soaked up Mark Twain and saw Tom Sawyer's picket fence (so to speak). After a night with friends in tranquil New Harmony, Ind., we arrived at Mason, Ohio, for dinner with **Brian Tansey,** his daughter, Eira, and her husband, Justin Levy. From Mason, we drove to Washington, D.C., in one long day, enjoying anew the green and rolling highway I-68, from Morgantown, W.Va., to Hancock, Md. (Way better than the Pennsy Turnpike.) In all, 25 days and 5,360 miles. In a year or two, we might drive out to L.A. to see our son Jeffrey and his twin boys, Matt and Jason (12), and deliver all the books Jeffrey left with us 30 years ago."

Edward, thanks for great tour-guiding. I've been to 46 of the 50 states — and to our Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico (and even to New Harmony, Ind., and Washington, D.C.) — and will be sure to check with you before we set our feet in North and South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana.

Family members informed us about the passing of **Keith Krebs** in Walla Walla, Wash., in October. Our sincere condolences to them.

An update from **Arnold Tolkin:** "The Tolkins are doing fine. We now have three great-granddaughters, two from a Columbia College grandson. My wife had open heart surgery and while it was scary for a little bit, she is making an excellent recovery. We are still planning to do a lot of traveling, and I am still active and running my business. I even got a new booking from a classmate. I keep working and initiating projects to keep me busy and I exercise daily. Life is good and I intend to keep living it."

Y'all hear that, men of destiny? Good for you, Arnie, and all our good wishes for your wife's quick recovery.

That's it for 2017, gentlemen. Some good news, some not so, mostly revealing something to share with best friends and cohorts we shared our lives with a lifetime ago. I get pure joy in writing this column — whatever the news — in getting your mail, and in knowing that 85 is the new whatever we individually are blessed to make of it. Until the next issue, be well, write often and continue to help cure the world. Excelsior!

1955

Gerald Sherwin
181 E. 73rd St., Apt. 6A
New York, NY 10021
gs481@juno.com

There were 13,000 fans (including President Lee C. Bollinger) at the Homecoming game. It was an incredible sight as the Lions beat Penn in one of the more exciting games in football history. In addition to the spectacle there was a special Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors meeting involving the dean in the 1929 Boathouse.

The 2017 Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner honored Jonathan Lavine '88 on November 16.

What's happening with our classmates? Your trusted correspondent made a slight error regarding **Allen Hyman.** He did not receive an alumni medal. He was awarded an honorary doctor of science degree. Alumni medals go to those who have given 10 or more years of service to the College. An honorary degree is awarded for contributions in science. In Allen's case, it was for medical science.

We received a note from **Michael Goldstein SEAS'55,** who was a good, close friend of **Ted Baker.** Michael was looking to contact Ted, as both were both Ford Scholars. He also referred me to **Peter Pressman,** who received an award.

From the West Coast, we received a note from **Lee Rogers,** who (with his family) has moved from his home. Lee was trying to contact **Norman Goldstein.** The surprise birthday party was held downtown. **Ron McPhee** and **Jack Freeman** unfortunately could not attend. Maybe next year.

Involved in Columbia Giving Day activities were **Nick Avery, Charles Barnett, Larry Cove, Marty Dubner, John Helmers, Millard Ingraham, Dick Kuhn, Lew Mendelson, Neil Opdyke** (who should be proud of his football guys), **Anthony Viscusi** and **Ralph Wagner.** If I left out any names, please contact me.

Also on the West Coast, **Jack Stuppin** had a showing in Northern California.

Bill Langston and his wife recently purchased, along with his daughter and her husband, a house in Hamilton Heights, Manhattan. He expects to finish the conversion on the apartment and move in by June. Bill will definitely be attending the 65th. We hope our noted Atlantan will be there as well.

Columbia now shares a club with Penn in New York City. To get more information on membership, contact your class correspondent, who will forward information to you.

Try to take long walks, and watch your food intake. You want to be ready for the 65th.

Love to all! Everywhere!

1956

Robert Siroty
707 Thistle Hill Ln.
Somerset, NJ 08873
rrs76@columbia.edu

It has been a busy couple of months. We had a great (but slightly pricey) lunch at the Penn Club, where nine of us were graced by Victoria Bonfante and Elke Easton (up from North Carolina for the occasion). Elke and **Steve Easton** report that they like to play golf, and have no difficulty finding places to play. Present were **Jordan Bonfante, Stephen Easton, Bob Siroty, Ralph Kaslick, Jerry Fine, Dan Link, Al Franco SEAS'56, Alan Broadwin** and **Stan Soren.** Our guest was David Silver, the Columbia College Fund's assistant director of class giving (and our class liaison from the Alumni Office). David was instrumental in arranging the **Lou Hemmerdinger** scholarship fund (31 donors, $35,000). Steve asks that you note his email address change to tball8000@gmail.com. Dan reports that he is now a great-grandfather, and enjoying the title.

Prior to that we assembled at Bonnie Brae Country Club in Larchmont, N.Y., courtesy of Dan, for tennis (three of us) and lunch. Great fun talking old times, and new ones. We were back on campus in October.

I had dinner with Beverly and **Bill Fischer.** Their son Wade is chief of cardiac surgery at a hospital in Orlando, and their son Bradley '98 is a producer in Hollywood. He produced the movie *Truth* about the life of Dan Rather, starring Robert Redford and Cate Blanchett.

Ron Kapon celebrated his 25th year as adjunct professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University, running the wine and spirits program.

I don't remember a course like that at Columbia, or did I miss something?

Buz Paaswell is back from San Diego after attending his granddaughter's bat mitzvah.

On a sadder note I received notice of the death of Lary Faris '55, SEAS'56. Lary was a member of both the national and international shuffleboard halls of fame; he had won more titles than any other male player. **Herb Kutlow** reports the passing of his best friend, **Fred Lane,** in October last year in Virginia. Lynne Vernick reports that her husband, **Arnold Vernick SEAS'56,** died in July. He was a well-recognized engineer with many awards to his name.

Keep in touch, guys. Periodic luncheons in the New York metro area are fun, and we will have one in Florida in February. There is a lot to report on and to remember (keep sending me info). Stay smart, and stay fit.

1957

Herman Levy
7322 Rockford Dr.
Falls Church, VA 22043
hdlleditor@aol.com

Alfred Daniel Fierro: "The same month I graduated I was married, and on June 29 I celebrated my 60th wedding anniversary. My wife and I had four children, three boys and one girl. For approximately 20 years I lived in Tenafly, N.J. Thereafter I downsized and built a smaller house in Old Tappan, N.J.

"We became parishioners of Our Lady of The Sacred Heart Church in Tappan, N.Y., which is immediately adjacent to Old Tappan, N.J. My wife, being a daily communicant, would always see a professor come to daily Mass, first alone, then with an aide, then with two aides, and finally in a wheelchair.

"The week of July 16 I finally ascertained the name of the professor, Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, GSAS'53. Unfortunately it was only after Professor de Bary's demise that I learned his name. On July 23 I took my yearbook to Mass and showed Father Dwyer and Father Francis Professor de Bary's faculty picture. It's a small world." [Editor's note: See "Obituaries," Fall 2017.]

A. Malcolm "Mac" Gimse submitted this poem tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., "A Stone of Hope"; he performed a reading of the poem at Arcadia Charter School, Northfield, Minn, in January.

"Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope."
You begin me wind, the trees
mime your gallop as you race across
the crouching hillside, gathering
into great thunderheads of power,
to send lightning-grabs of pent
up torrents crashing down
into the chaos of my unsuspecting world, to violate
my innermost sacred chamber,
and crush every
arm-in-arm march to be free at last,
...without my permission.

"Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope."
Ah wind…you stir the waters
with *Holy Spirit* sounds
to breach wombs of readiness,
that will deliver children of mercy
to be nurtured by us, to grow in
wisdom and strength, and lead us
onto common ground, where soils
are saturated by every mix of human
blood, and soaked down by human
tears, that we might learn to sow
our seeds of peace into fields of a
gentler faith
...asking the God of all religions for permission.

"Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope."
We lean against our moral obligations to friend and foe alike,
bracing up each bridge of passage
that leads us to our most urgent quest.
"I have a dream." Upon this
rock we will create love, not hatred.
"I have a dream today."
Upon this rock we will offer mercy,
not revenge.
"I have a dream that one day"
Upon this rock we will build peace,
not anger,
until together we pronounce a
verdict of mutual respect between
the powerful and the powerless
for all future generations to follow,
…making peace their only permission.

"Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope."
Somewhere in the vastness of our
separations we hear cries
to steady the trembling foundations of our fragile homeland;
to set down our weeping weapons
on screaming streets of rage;
to circle our sanctuary against the
sting of ethnic cleansing; to bind up
wounds laid bare by warring creeds;
to tame, to calm, to quiet the loudly
crowd in order to hear our freedoms ring. Then lift up our
next born ***"as a joyous daybreak to end the long night"*** and declare
"Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope."
...using all humanity's permission.

Stephen Fybish died on August 30, 2017. *The New York Times* obituary appeared on September 8 (read it online at nyti.ms/2las0VB). I asked classmates for recollections of him; the responses follow.

Richard Berger: "While I remember him, especially that we were on *Spec* and used to talk about one thing or another, I don't have anything [specific] to contribute. I recall he was very smart, well read and seemed rudderless."

Alan Brown: "Steve was an American Original. It is hard to capture him in words but those who knew him [will] understand this."

Dick Effros: "I have many fond memories of Stephen, who always seemed to be everyone's friend. We were both in the Columbia University orchestra … he was certainly more talented than I. He was interested in just about everything and at one point considered medicine as a possible career. He will be missed."

Ludwig Gelobter: "I have faded memories of Steve, sharing some classes at Stuyvesant H.S. and then seeing him occasionally at Columbia. Years later, when I lived on the West Side, I would see him walking on Broadway, lost in thought, muttering to himself. Did he not play the flute as well? I actually thought of reaching out to him months ago, on one of my trips to NYC. Now it's too late."

Mac Gimse: "I remember Stephen as a very bright classmate who always had an interesting, informative comment in any conversation. I sought him out in the caf because sitting near him was a learning experience. Whenever I needed a synopsis of a CC or Humanities reading, he had it ready and was, thankfully, generous with his encyclopedic information. He and I met often on the elevator and in the restroom, because we lived on the same floor for at least a year. It was never dull. Am I correct in saying that he was the top scholar in the Class of '57?

"A few years ago I had an exhibit of my bronze sculpture in a gallery in West Chelsea and invited classmates to visit. Stephen went around all 20 pieces, each with extensive descriptions and half of them with poetry attached. He responded to the 'Please Touch' signs and ran his hands over each piece. After he finished, he had questions and obviously remembered what he had read. He asked if I would recite some of the poetry; [he had] perceptive and sensitive comments afterward.

"He said he enjoyed his 'weather-watching career' because it was palpable. His body responded to a change in in the atmosphere. He got wet and could feel ice and eat snow. At my exhibit he was happy to touch what the sculptor [had] shaped, which was not [allowed] in museums. That brief encounter made me wish he had been my elementary [school] teacher.

"At the 60th reunion last June, Stephen led the group in singing *Sans Souci*. I'm so glad I got to hear him sing over the phone because it was a valiant effort … even a tender rendition. He was up for doing almost anything. He was truly a likeable guy. He [is] missed already."

Alvin Kass: "I was deeply saddened to hear of Steve's death. He was extraordinarily intelligent and I was dazzled by his expertise in the domain of weather. He demonstrated how often major events could be influenced by weather in either a positive or negative way. He would have been an important and eloquent voice in the current argument over human-caused climate change. I will miss him."

Ronald Maenza: "Steve and I were friends from the time we were elementary school classmates. We were the founding (and only) members of the Jackson Heights Junior Astronomy Club. Our prize 'possession' was a large refracting telescope loaned to us by the Hayden Planetarium. After transporting the large device via the subway, complete with the tripod mount, from Manhattan to an open lot in Jackson Heights, I saw the rings of Saturn for the first time. I was a friend of Steve's as we traveled together from grade school through high school and college. Steve continued to amaze me with his knowledge, and he tried to impart some of his wisdom to me.

"I was saddened to learn of Steve's passing. My sympathy goes out to his stepdaughters, whom I never met, and younger brother, Ira, whom I knew as a child. My hope is that the pleasant memories we have of this brilliant man will sustain all who mourn his loss. He was one of a kind, and I say that with great affection for this remarkable friend."

John Norton: "It is with great sadness that I read of the passing of Steve, a classmate from Stuyvesant H.S. and the College. At Stuyvesant, Steve was one of our brightest classmates and a participant in science, music and a multitude of other activities. He loved to talk about interests and share insights he discovered. At Columbia he demonstrated intense excitement in many areas of academic interest, from medicine to law to teaching. In his approach to analyses of large data sets he showed fascination about global trends that could be derived from weather bureau reports. His enthusiasm was ever-present. It is with wonderful memories that I recall Steve. He was really very smart — if a tad eccentric. I'm surprised he became an elementary school teacher and 'avocational weather researcher' instead of a theoretical physicist."

Gabriel Pinski: "Steve was a close colleague since early in our freshman year. The preponderance of our interactions related to the pursuit of females."

"Steve had scored first in the city in the State Scholarship exam. Every year *The New York Times* published, in descending order for

Ron Kapon '56 celebrated his 25th year as an adjunct professor at Fairleigh Dickinson, running the wine and spirits program.

each borough, the scores of the winners. These scores for many years, [by use of] Steve's encyclopedic memory, served as a bottomless pit of worthy contacts. His cold calls resulted in many dates. In Spring '56 he highly recommended two Music and Art lovelies for me to address. For various reasons they both declined; nevertheless, they turned out to be classmates of my eventual wife, Avivah. I see them frequently at M&A get-togethers. I can't see them without thinking of Steve.

"I visited Steve during our first postgraduate year when I was at Rochester and he was at Cornell. He fixed me up with a cute young lady; I don't remember her State Scholarship pedigree. I was so impressed with the Cornell campus that I was sorry I hadn't gone there for grad school.

"Over the years Steve would tell us about his ongoing participation in the Columbia orchestra and the Balalaika orchestra. I remember visiting his apartment on West 93rd Street, where we had to walk between towering stacks of newspapers. Avivah and I met his wife, Peggy, and Avivah once went to a museum with her. It is hard to think of being around Columbia without Steve."

Yitzhak Sharon: "Sandy, Dina and I were deeply saddened when we heard of Steve's untimely death on August 30. We feel fortunate to have spent time with him at our reunion last June. One of the most striking and endearing aspects of Steve, who was a teacher, was his outgoing nature; not only was he so knowledgeable about so many areas, but he was also so eager to engage others and share his knowledge with them.

"Steve was a refreshing spirit among us. His childlike delight in his hobbies and interests always brought a smile to our faces. Why, given your birthdate, he could tell you on what day of the week you were born in a minute; he did the calculation in his head. He knew so much about the weather history of New York City. His passion for books almost got him evicted from his apartment, because he had so many, stacked all over it. Indeed, Steve was an intelligent, lovable, colorful and free-spirited Columbian and friend.

"After the Sunday brunch at reunion, we took a picture of Steve waving goodbye to our family. Alas, it turned out that he was also waving farewell to his classmates and to Columbia. We will miss him sorely. He will always be in our thoughts."

1958

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776

Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Barry Dickman
25 Main St.
Court Plaza North, Ste 104
Hackensack, NJ 07601
bdickmanesq@gmail.com

We are sorry to report the deaths of two classmates. **Michael Lesch** died on August 21, 2017, after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. He was predeceased by his wife, Judith, and is survived by his daughter, Sara '89, LAW'93; son, Benjamin; and five grandchildren. After graduating from Harvard Law School, Mike spent his entire career as a litigator in New York City, first with the firm that eventually became Shea & Gould and then with LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, which ultimately merged with Dewey Ballantine to became the ill-fated Dewey LeBoeuf. His accomplishments included arguing a case before the United States Supreme Court.

Dick Bakalor LAW'61 was killed on July 14, 2017, when he was run over by a car while crossing the street outside his law offices in Garden City, N.Y. He is survived by his wife, Julie, and children, Donna and Joseph. **Henry Solomon** PS'62, ZBT fraternity brother and College roommate who notified us of Dick's death, said it was particularly unfortunate because Dick had been making an excellent recovery from open-heart surgery and had returned to work. In fact, he was on his way to a deposition when he was struck. As an undergraduate, Dick was a varsity wrestler. A founding member of Quirk & Bakalor, Dick had a diverse litigation practice and was also a lecturer at St. John's University School of Law.

As for **Henry Solomon**, he is the chief medical officer/senior medical adviser of the American College of Cardiology, and chief continuing medical education reviewer for *MedPage Today*. He added, "My work for the American College of Cardiology keeps me traveling quite a bit, especially to Asia — I will have been in China and Japan seven or eight times in 2017 by the end of the year, as well as in Europe twice."

Steve Jonas unsurprisingly reported that he too is keeping busy: "I am competing in my 35th season of triathlon/duathlon racing and have done 255 races. In the 2017 USA Triathlon Age Group Sprint-Triathlon National Championships at Omaha, Neb., I had a podium finish (fourth) in the 80–84 age group. Thus I qualified to go to the 2018 International Triathlon Union Age Group Sprint-Triathlon World Championships at Gold Coast, Australia. Also, I was first (and only) in my age group at the New Jersey State Triathlon, held in Princeton, N.J.

"On the academic side, I presented a paper based on my book, *Ending the 'Drug War:' Solving the Drug Problem: The Public Health Approach*, at the 2017 annual meeting of the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research, held in Savannah, Ga., and at the third annual International Conference on Public Health of the Athens Institute for Education and Research. I was a session chair at the 2017 annual meeting of The International Society for the Study of Drug Policy, held in Aarhus, Denmark. Finally, I continue publishing my political columns most weeks on OpEdNews and several other left-wing web magazines."

Despite his alleged retirement, Steve is active as professor emeritus in the family, population and preventive medicine department and the program in public health at Stony Brook University.

And speaking of triathlons, a "Diagnosis" column in *The New York Times Magazine* involving a woman in Rhode Island with a mysterious and painful condition mentioned a consultation with an infectious disease doctor, who turned out to be **Fred Silverblatt.** A little further research revealed that not only is Fred still practicing at South County Hospital in East Greenwich, R.I., but he also was the oldest competitor in last July's New York City Triathlon. Fred was on the swim team as an undergraduate. According to wpri.com, Fred took up running after college, competing in more than 30 marathons before deciding (when he was 65) to move to triathlons (inspired, no doubt, by **Steve Jonas**). He was hoping to qualify for the U.S. Triathlon Team that will compete at the 2018 World Championships in Denmark and plans to continue to race as long as he can inspire others to increase their physical activity.

Harvey Feuerstein's son, Mark, is starring on a new CBS series, *9JKL*, based on his own life. The title refers to a row of apartments where Mark's character lives between his parents (played by Elliott Gould and Linda Lavin) and his brother and sister-in-law. Does this make Harvey Barbra Streisand's ex-husband? Mark previously played the lead role in the long-running USA series *Royal Pains*.

Steve Jonas '58 is competing in his 35th season of triathlon/duathlon racing and has done 255 races.

Occasionally this column mentions a non-classmate with a connection to '58. Stephen Fybish '57, who died on August 30, 2017, was a member of *Spectator*'s managing board the year before '58 took over, and we were all familiar with his quirky views. Sadly, he never achieved his goal of attending every Ivy League school — your reporter encountered him at Harvard and my sister ran into him at Cornell, but that was about it. However, he did satisfy his peripatetic urges by becoming a substitute teacher and making the rounds of New York City's high schools. He also became a self-taught freelance weather expert, who was often quoted in *The New York Times*, supplying an obscure snowfall or windstorm record, which might date back to 1877!

We'll miss those odd encounters; he was one of a kind. [Editor's note: See the 1957 column for classmates' memories of Steve.]

The Class Lunch is held on the second Tuesday of every month in the Grill of the Princeton Club, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). Email **Art Radin** if you plan to attend, up to the day before: arthur.radin@janoverllc.com.

1959

Norman Gelfand
c/o *CCT*
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
nmgc59@gmail.com

Many of us have new email addresses since we have retired or moved. I encourage all of you who are not getting email from me to send me your email address. I promise not to share it with anyone without your permission, including Columbia. [Editor's note: If you would like your address updated with *CCT* and the Alumni Office, please go to college.columbia.edu/cct/update_contact_info.]

We heard from **Steve Trachtenberg** who, as you might suspect, has been very busy writing. He has also been fishing, successfully if the picture that he sent me is correct. Since the fish does not qualify as a College graduate, *CCT* will not include the photo, but I can tell you that it is a big fish.

Steve Kallis reports: "Probably the most interesting experience I've had is sitting through Hurricane Irma in Tampa. I took precautions, such as throwing all of the lawn furniture into the pool, so that nothing could become a projectile. My next-door neighbors armored their house and invited me to go through the storm there, which I (and my cat) did. Winds were fierce, but the following morning, though trees on my lawn lost limbs, the house was undamaged and the forecasted storm surge didn't reach it. Fortunately, we retained power."

I am glad to hear that things worked out so well. Any reports from others who had experiences with hurricanes or other natural disasters (such as wildfires)? Let your classmates share your experience.

David Horowitz LAW'62 writes, "Just when I thought I had retired — sort of — and was never going to write another book, I got a call before the presidential election asking me if I would write a book called *Big Agenda* about what to expect of the new administration. The call came from Chris Ruddy, Newsmax's founder and creative publisher, who told me to write it as though Hillary was going to win and to have it ready for the printer on November 9, three and a half weeks away. The book, whose full title is *Big Agenda: President Trump's Plan to Save America*, was published three days before Trump's inauguration, as Ruddy had planned, and instantly became a bestseller, making *The New York Times* list 11 weeks in a row. Of course, it was never reviewed by the *Times* or any of the 'fake media' (a not-inappropriate title for a hyper-partisan press). I don't expect *Columbia College Today* to review it either, which is a sad commentary on the partisan institutions our once great schools have become. I have submitted this 'news' to our Class Notes not to hype the book — as I suspect few of my classmates will be inclined to read it — but to encourage you all to embrace the idea that life isn't over at 78."



Norman Gelfand '59 submitted this photo of a 1958 Columbia football game.

From **Bernie Pucker:** "We began celebrating the gallery's 50th anniversary year in September 2017 with major shows by important gallery artists, starting with Brother Thomas Bezanson (porcelain potter), Paul Caponigro (a master photographer) and Samuel Bak (an artist who continues to raise important visual and moral questions). In late September we hosted a celebration for artists and patrons and staff to say thank you.

"In November, my wife, Sue, and I planned to go to Rwanda to celebrate the high school graduation of the Maranyundo Girls School that Sue and 14 women in Boston founded. Then on to Vilnius to celebrate the opening of a Bak museum."

Bernie sent me a copy of the remarks that he made at the reception to celebrate the 50th anniversary. I have excerpted the following for our enjoyment: "When we moved to Boston in 1961, it was far from clear that we would be devoting these decades to founding and guiding a gallery on Newbury Street. Brandeis, Jewish Studies and the Hebrew Bible seemed to be my direction and gradually the art took over and, in Fall 1967, we opened the below street level space at 171 Newbury. The landlord, John Priestley, also the architect and building owner, worked with Richie Bertman of the newly founded CBT Architects to create an environment much like a home to exhibit our primary collections. The sole source was the Safrai Fine Art Gallery of Jerusalem. Dov and Shoshana Safrai trusted and encouraged us to open our gallery. They had befriended us in 1959–60, when we lived there during our first year of marriage, on Rehov Salant in Jerusalem. During that year, Sue's aunt Saidy gifted us $300 designated to the purchase of Israeli art. This was the beginning of our journey … From the art of Israel, aka modern masters of Israeli art, to modern masters (Chagall, Picasso, Matisse) to artists from New England and around the globe and eventually, in 1982, to ceramics …. And a second very special thank you to John for making the move to the renewed, beautiful space at 240 Newbury."

Eric Jakobsson SEAS'60 writes, "Snippets: Traveled this summer with my wife, Naomi, and Columbia alumni and friends to Iceland. Wonderful trip! Highly recommended. Odyssey is a great travel company and when it teams up with the Columbia Alumni Association it produces great experiences and memories. The country is spectacularly beautiful and successful and interesting, all at once.

"Also went to Costa Rica to give a talk, 'Science Denial in the United States,' trying to help them and me understand how we went off the rails and how to get back on. Acquired a new grandson, Luke. Recently got a comprehensive review of lithium in biological systems accepted in the *Journal of Membrane Biology*. Was working on three papers that I hoped to get accepted or at least submitted before the turn of the year. Took two lobbying trips to Washington, D.C., one with the Union of Concerned Scientists to lobby for sensible climate policies and support for climate research, and one with the Biophysical Society to lobby for biomedical research funding. Memorial Sloan Kettering continues to tell me that something else will almost certainly kill me before my prostate cancer gets really dangerous; next checkup was to be in November to see if this continues to be their view. Assuming no unforeseen catastrophes, I will come to reunion in 2019!

"In my life at work, I am a research scientist. Most recently I had papers on ACS Nano (gene expression patterns in yeast cells encapsulated in silica matrices) and Langmuir (distortion of structure of phospholipid membranes by lithium ions).

"In my life as a citizen, I have embarked on another term on the Urbana City Council. A lot of this is mundane (although important). Some is not so mundane, such as working on issues related to social services, criminal justice and helping to draft and pass a resolution declaring Urbana a Sanctuary City.

"Because of the emergency state we are in due to the elections, I have decided to move some of my think-

ing and activity toward mitigating climate change. I have become active in the Union of Concerned Scientists, including visiting Congressional offices in Washington and trying to organize a group of folks to actively confront science denial.

"In order to be credible in issues advocacy, I am steering clear of partisan politics. Naomi, however, is working for the election of a smart and good reform candidate for Illinois governor, Daniel Biss.

"Family milestones keep coming. Our granddaughter Farrah graduated last spring from Ohio State in political science. My health is great except for usual accretions of age — glaucoma, cataracts, prostate and skin cancer, and a pinched nerve in my lower back. I also suffer from moderate depression, so do not feel as lucky as I should."

From a long communication with **Paul Kantor** I extracted the following: "Once again there's been a fair amount of travel. In October, we (Carole and I) went to New Jersey for a symposium at the New Jersey Center for Biomaterials and had a most pleasant visit with Sheila D'Atri. In November I was in North Carolina for a meeting about floods and resilience, and had a wonderful supper with Carol and **Lowell Goldsmith**, who were in the planning stages of 'downsizing.' Later in November we visited New York City, staying in the fabulous apartment owned by one of Carole's colleagues and his husband. Last but not least, at Thanksgiving, **Bill Zangwill** and his wife, Julia, visited from Chicago, and we swapped thoughts about the astonishing election outcome. … In January we were off to Israel. My brother, Fred Kantor '64, traveled with us … We spent time in Jerusalem, in funky rooms, and took some of our meals in the Shuk, which was right across the street. But mostly we visited with my Aunt Sue. Then back to Madison, Wis., for the annual Folk Ball — a huge room filled with dancers, sometimes with the music of Dave's Bulgarian ensemble Veselka — and we were able, with our new bionic parts, to do much more dancing than in recent years."

More in future issues of *CCT*.

I encourage you to write about your doings and reflections. If you got this far you are interested in reading about your classmates. They would like to hear from you.

1960

Robert A. Machleder
69-37 Fleet St.
Forest Hills, NY 11375
rmachleder@aol.com

Syd Goldsmith GSAS'65 — diplomat, businessman, novelist, flutist — has written a memoir, *Hong Kong on the Brink: An American Diplomat Relives 1967's Darkest Days.* Syd relates his experiences as a newly minted Foreign Service officer posted to Hong Kong in 1965; he was the only Cantonese-speaking non-Chinese officer at the American consulate. Covering a pivotal period in Hong Kong's history, fraught with social unrest, conflicts and riots, rumors and threats of a Chinese takeover, Syd finds himself in the center of intrigue and violence. Hong Kong is beset by a feckless British colonial administration, volatile industrial strife, and strikes and demonstrations fueled by intolerable working conditions that combine to threaten the colony's existence. In the opening chapter, Syd is dispatched by the deputy chief of the consulate to observe and report on conditions in one of the areas experiencing industrial unrest. Unfamiliar with the district and unprepared for what he will find, Syd walks into a spontaneous volcanic eruption of chaos and rioting, is surrounded and suffers a relentless, ferocious pummeling. Hong Kong barely survives the '67 upheaval, and modern Hong Kong emerges. Read Syd's book for his observations, insights and experiences.

Bill Tanenbaum is passionate about travel and encourages others to follow his sense of wanderlust. He is equally passionate about staying in contact and visiting with a number of members of the class. Combining these two passions, Bill reports on the recent trips far from home of several members of CC'60, and on his own travels with his wife, Ronna.

Dick Caldwell and his wife, Ellen, presently residing in Winchester, Va., took a tour of Alaska. The Caldwells were not the only travelers to Alaska. **Bob Levine** and his wife, Agy, who live in Los Angeles, embarked on an Alaskan cruise. **Richard Dorazio** and his wife, Sharon, living in Heath, Texas, spent a month at a home north of Rome, Italy. **Ernie Kaiman** and his wife, Faye, living in Sarasota, Fla., took a tour through the Canadian Rockies. As for Bill and Ronna, living in Boca Raton, Fla., they enjoyed visits to London, Edinburgh and Jerusalem, and spent August hiking and sightseeing in Beaver Creek, Colo. On a personal note, I was grateful to receive Bill's recommendations on sights to see in Edinburgh (a city Bill has visited several times and which is one of his favorites) when my wife, Cheryl, and I and our son, Ethan, traveled through Iceland and Scotland and spent several days in Edinburgh.

Every year on October 5, **Tom Hamilton** faithfully recalls and memorializes the "Anniversary of Theft," an event to which he was a witness as a member of the staff of WKCR. He includes WKCR and *Spectator* as recipients of his report of the incident. You can read it here: "Sixty years ago yesterday," Tom writes, "the Soviet Union placed the first artificial satellite, Sputnik 1, in orbit around the earth. Its only jobs were to report its location and on-board temperature. The first radio station in North America to rebroadcast its signal was Columbia University's WKCR (89.5 FM), which taped its first pass at the campus ham station, W2AEE. The next morning, 60 years ago today, at 9:05 a.m., two FBI agents came to the station and stole the audio tape of Sputnik's signal. The FBI has never returned, replaced or paid for the tape. This is theft, as I pointed out to my astronomy classes during 34 years of teaching."

Phil Brady '61 was featured prominently in the 10-part documentary The Vietnam War, *which aired on PBS in September.*

Two sad notes: **David Kirk** and **Carlos Otalvaro** BUS'61 were high school classmates and roomed together when they entered with the Class of '60. David and Carlos maintained contact after graduation and David advised of Carlos' recent passing.

Carlos was born in Bogota, Colombia, and came to New York with his parents during his youth. When he entered the College he always joked about being the only Colombian at Columbia. He was a member of the wrestling team, was class president and formed a Latin-American band called the Carlos Ota Band, in which he sang and played guitar and percussion. After Columbia he moved to Spain to pursue graduate studies at the Menéndez Pelayo International University in Santander. There he started one of the first chain self-service laundromats, with locations in various parts of the country. Carlos met his wife, Sonia, in Madrid and started their family of six children. He returned to the United States with his family in 1976. Carlos taught at Tulane University while also working night shifts at the university as a custodian to support the six kids. He later worked for Merrill Lynch, first in New Orleans where he became a top producer, and then in Florida, where he spent the rest of his life. In Miami, Carlos worked for Bear Stearns, Shearson Lehman and other financial services firms, using his expertise in Latin-American markets, before starting his own firms, most notably, one of the first online broker-dealers, WallStreet*E, in collaboration with his sons. With his wife, he started another family business in the 1990s: a luxury transportation company that used vintage Rolls Royce limousines.

Carlos maintained his passion for Latin-American music and dance throughout his life. He was an avid tennis player and coached all of his children in the sport. He passed away peacefully in his home on August 19, 2017, after a courageous 13-year battle with Parkinson's disease. His family remembers him for his verve for life, his hearty laughter, his salsa dancing, his generous, creative and entrepreneurial spirit and his ability to address an audience and capture their attention. He is survived by Sonia; their six children; sons- and daughters-in law; and 10 grandchildren.

And, then, another loss to the class. I was informed by **Vince Russo** that **Frank Siracusa** of Seaford, N.Y., died in February. Frank and Vince were part of a close-knit group that included **Tom Palmieri, Fred**

Gordon, Elliot Olstein, George Camarinos and **Ernie Kaiman.** They lunched regularly at the Lions Den. Lunches that were filled with laughter, lots of stories and the sharing of plans for careers and life goals. Frank was in retirement as a professor at Hofstra and had taught chemistry for 33 years at Franklin K. Lane H.S. Vince notes, "Frank was enjoying his well-deserved retirement and he told me [at our 50th reunion] that rather than buying new cars he and his wife, Frances, would take exotic trips. It was while on one of those trips that he died suddenly of a heart attack."

Frank is survived by Frances; their two daughters; and five grandchildren.

To the families and friends of Carlos and Frank, the Class of '60 sends its deep condolences.

One final note. Vince, with his wife of 54 years, Sheila Kay, still holds the class record for most grandchildren, numbering 15, ages 8–26. If there are any contenders with more, please let me know. Vince also advises, "After retiring from practicing general surgery, I was with The Joint Commission for 12 years and have recently started consulting with hospitals to improve clinical outcomes. While with The Joint Commission I met **Dan Schwartz,** who had retired from ob/gyn, and we worked together frequently."

1961

Michael Hausig
19418 Encino Summit
San Antonio, TX 78259
mhausig@yahoo.com

Tom Lippman and his wife, Sidney, treated themselves to a trip to London in September to celebrate their 50th anniversary. They hadn't been there in many years. The food is much better now! Tom writes that you can still eat bangers and mash, but you don't have to.

Ben Gerstein, an avant garde jazz trombonist and the younger son of **Larry Gerstein,** performed at Lincoln Center on September 23 with a group headed by Henry Threadgill, the 2016 winner of the Pulitzer Prize in music. The concert was part of the Jazz at Lincoln Center series.

Stuart Newman LAW'64 writes that, on October 4, following a trial that concluded in June resulting in a judgment in favor of his firm's clients, "the United States Marines killed or wounded in the 1983 Beirut bombing, and of other claimants with judgments against Iran, U.S. District Court Judge Katherine B. Forrest entered final Order awarding the claimants possession of 650 Fifth Avenue and several other Iranian-owned properties in Texas, California, Maryland, Virginia and New York. The Order authorized the immediate sale of the properties, provided that the proceeds be held and not distributed until all appeals are exhausted.

"This action, involving the building where our class holds its regular New York monthly meetings, is the second of three cases Stuart's firm is pursuing to enforce judgments on behalf of the Beirut Marines aggregating $2.7 billion. Last year, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the award of a $2.0 billion bank account to the claimants. A third action, against another bank account, is awaiting a decision from the Second Circuit Court of Appeals."

Gerry Brodeur is recovering well from his broken femur. He is back playing golf!

Marty Sheller is the composer and arranger of the musical group "The Marty Sheller Ensemble." The group's album *Libre* was selected as album of the week in the June 20 issue of *Latin Jazz Corner*. A more detailed review of Marty's work can be found at "Album Of The Week: *Libre*, The Marty Sheller Ensemble" on the jazzcorner.com website.

Tony Adler and his wife, Donna, moved to West Palm Beach, Fla., in October. The move was scheduled for September, but Hurricane Irma, along with broken pipes, broken cars, several injuries, the dog eating a rack of lamb right off the grill and some other indignities (Murphy was in all his glory) delayed things.

Tony was instrumental in establishing the NYC monthly luncheon group and will remain active in that capacity. There is a call-in number available for out-of-town class members to participate in the discussion.

Phil Brady was featured prominently in the riveting, multi-part documentary about the Vietnam War that aired in September on PBS. Phil, who was in the ROTC program at Columbia, was one of several thousand advisers sent to help South Vietnamese soldiers in the mid-1960s. He was a Marine lieutenant attached to a South Vietnamese unit. He was involved in the Battle of Binh Gia, one of the early instances in which enemy troops stormed an ARVN (Army of the Republic of Vietnam) stronghold and inflicted heavy casualties. This attack marked a significant change in enemy tactics and was a turning point of the war. Phil was right in the middle of it and somehow Burns found him in the course of the 10 years he spent putting the documentary together. Phil was in Saigon during the Tet offensive as a USAID worker and is interviewed in that episode as well.

Arnie Abrams saw Phil in Hong Kong in the early 1970s, when Arnie was visiting the NBC news office there. Phil was a correspondent for NBC at that time.

On a sad note, **Jack Kirik**'s wife of 32 years, Sue, passed away in October. She suffered a massive brain hemorrhage. My wife, JB, and I have very fond memories of Sue.

Ted Stanley PS'65 and **Andy Levine** SEAS'62 passed away in recent months. Their obituaries are included in this issue. Also, when updating class email addresses I learned that **Jay Carrigan** and **Peter King** have passed away. No further information is available at this time.

1962

John Freidin
654 E. Munger St.
Middlebury, VT 05753
jf@bicyclevt.com

Good news! *CCT* is looking for high-resolution digital photos containing at least two College alumni. Please upload your photos and caption info directly to college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

Here is a wonderful, typical Columbia story, sent by **Louis "Bernie" Muench '61, SEAS'62:** "**Charlie Rohrs** PS'66, who passed away on June 14, 2016, was a good friend. He was from Oregon; I was from Arkansas. He rowed lightweight crew; I was a heavyweight. We both were members of Sigma Chi.

"Charlie had applied to two colleges: A community college in Oregon and Columbia. He applied to Columbia only because, he said, 'My father told me that I would never get in.' Charlie had been in a little trouble during high school — skipping classes, smoking in the men's room, etc. By the time the community college sent a representative to Charlie's house to inform him that he had been 'provisionally accepted' and would probably be given a place in its fall class after the initial round of acceptances and rejections were known, he was able to tell the rep that Columbia had accepted him on a full scholarship.

"Charlie had a quick, dry sense of humor. I remember a party at his girlfriend's apartment (rent-controlled on Riverside Drive, north of West 113th Street). About 20 people were sitting in a big circle in the living room, talking, eating, drinking and having a good time. I watched a cockroach crawl from the hall into the living room, and when it was 10 ft. away, one of the young women noticed it and screamed, 'Oh my god, there's a cockroach!' Charlie looked at her, and with a twinkling smile, said: 'Geez, Barbara, I thought you told 'em to stay in the kitchen.'

"Charlie graduated from Columbia College with honors and continued his education at P&S on another full scholarship.

"He and I did not keep up with each other regularly, but when I talked with him by telephone a few years ago, he told me he was still in NYC and he was treating and rehabilitating young drug addicts. His choice to 'give back' was no surprise. He became a psychiatrist and for many years was the clinical director of Odyssey House, the nonprofit drug and alcohol treatment organization.

"I expect he left a big hole in his community when he passed. I know that I will miss him."

On December 10, 1995, *The New York Times* published the following letter from Charlie: "To the Editor: Elisa DeCarlo's poignant Nov. 26 Soapbox essay 'Encounters With 'Dirty Louie" highlights our growing crisis. Louie is not just a homeless crack addict but a mentally ill homeless crack addict.

"The abandonment of our Dirty Louies began when 'enlightened' forces dismantled a large system of chronic care psychiatric hospitals. That system was to be replaced by modern community mental health resources, but the promise was not kept, and mentally ill patients, bereft of medical or psychiatric care, swelled the ranks of the homeless.

Now 'reactionary' forces push an agenda that promises more Louies.

"The managed care dollar managers do not want Louie, nor do the acute care hospitals. He needs drug rehabilitation, but for it to be effective his mental illness must be treated first. He cannot help himself.

"Instead of feeling helpless about what to do with Louie, Ms. DeCarlo and all of us should get mad. Demand that mental health laws and public health laws be implemented. Demand that public hospital resources be used effectively for the addicted, homeless, mentally ill. Demand that the effective drug treatment network be preserved."

Dear classmates, I know you have news. It's just not getting to your faithful correspondent. Please help by sending updates to jf@bicyclevt.com.

1963

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776

Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Paul Neshamkin
1015 Washington St., Apt. 50
Hoboken, NJ 07030
pauln@helpauthors.com

Reunion is only four and a half months away! I hope you all have it on your calendar and are making plans to attend (see dates at the top of the column). Your reunion committee has been hard at work and hopes to recreate our wonderful 50th reunion. We want to make sure this one is as much fun and will give you plenty of time to greet classmates and enjoy an exciting visit to New York (and good old Columbia). Please come and reach out to your friends to make sure they join you.

As usual, we had a great turnout at Homecoming. **Frank Partel, Doron Gopstein** and **Steve Barcan** joined me in the Big Tent before the game. **Ed Coller** and his grandkids joined with several of the band alumni at an adjoining table. I saw **Henry Black** in the stands, and **Bob Kraft** was on the field at halftime along with President Lee C. Bollinger. I'm sure there were others there, but it was a huge crowd and a great day for Columbia as they continued their unbelievable winning streak and beat Penn for the first time in more than 20 years.

Jonah Raskin recently published a noir murder mystery set in Sonoma County, Calif., where he has lived since 1975 (and which has been devastated by recent fires). Appropriately enough, the title is *Dark Land, Dark Mirror*. The private investigator is a woman named Tioga Vignetta. The book is available on Amazon.

Jonah writes, "It's in the tradition of Raymond Chandler and Dashiell Hammett. There's humor as well as suspense."

I asked Jonah to tell us about his experience with the fires and he writes, "Many of you might have seen photos and/or read about the fires in Sonoma County, Calif. I had to evacuate my house in Santa Rosa on October 9. The fire was close and traveling fast in my direction. I packed a suitcase and put all my valuable papers in the trunk of my car, then filled the tank with gas. I went to the coast and then to San Francisco to stay with my brother, Daniel. I listened to news reports all the time. I saw the photos. I read the stories. I came back home on October 12 and found my house still standing and no fire damage at all. I am so relieved. I have lived through hurricanes and earthquakes and political upheavals, but nothing as devastating as these fires. Friends of mine lost their homes and all their belongings. It will take us months, and maybe even years, to recover. The takeaway for me is not to go through tragedy alone. As a friend said during a conversation we had about the fires, 'You don't know what good is until you know what bad is. Tragedy opens the heart. We're resilient. We bounce back.'"

You might have heard that **Allen Frances** recently published a book about the state of our nation, *Twilight of American Sanity*. He was on NPR on Brian Lehrer's program: wnyc.org/story/crazy-time. Also, **Henry Black** forwarded me this link to an article in the *San Diego Union-Tribune*: bit.ly/2zEYkFI.

Stanley Sperber: "The only newsworthy event I would mention is my annual journey from Tel Aviv to Chicago in December. I conducted two performances of Handel's *Messiah* with a chorus of 1,500 singers, orchestra and soloists at the Harris Theater, which is just off Michigan Avenue. Hearing the *Hallelujah Chorus* with that number of singers is an experience, so all alumni in the Chicago area are cordially invited in the future. Tickets are a nominal fee of around $10, as most of the audience will be singing. Tickets can be ordered through the International Music Foundation, or send an email to contact@imfchicago.org."

Bob Burley: "Aye, I'll be piping in the haggis at the Penn Club on January 26. T'will be my 17th year. I'll also be playing other tunes during the Scotch tasting hour, 6–7 p.m. Round up the MacLion clan for an enjoyable evening. Make reservations at the club. Attendance averages 75 yearly.

"Thank you for mentioning my previous novel in Class Notes. A second book, *God, Guns, & Charter Schools*, is in the design stage at the publisher. It involves a reprise of characters Rob and Annie (along with the Klein triplets) dealing with book title issues as well as environmental degradation, overpopulation, ethics and literature. (Finally, my College education has been put to good use.) At the conclusion, the MacKenzie family moves from Connecticut to Colorado, where Rob is named as chair of a new department at the University of Colorado. The third installment in the trilogy, *Sundown Requiem*, is about half complete. Each book has been formatted differently. I'm hoping to have it ready in six months."

Mel Gurtov SIPA'65: "I'm happy to post three pieces of news: I blog on foreign affairs, 'In the Human Interest,' at melgurtov.com and invite classmates to check it out. I recently co-edited a book, *Learning From Fukushima: Nuclear Power in East Asia*, and in February, my 26th book will be published: *Engaging Adversaries: Peacemaking and Diplomacy in the Human Interest*."

Larry Neuman is happily splitting his time between apartments in New York and Tel Aviv where, as one of the few remaining '63 non-retirees, he is developing solar and wind projects from the Golan Heights to the Negev to the Jordan River Valley. He is also working with his son, Andreas '98, on using drones for precision agriculture, especially medical marijuana in which Israel is advancing as a world leader. His wife, Ursula, curates contemporary art jewelry exhibitions and is engaged in the vibrant art scene in Israel. She will lecture in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv after the opening of her exhibition at the Cooper Hewitt museum, which was scheduled for November 16 in New York.

Larry says that Tel Aviv is alive day and (especially) at night, when all the cafes and pubs spill over with crowds enjoying the splendid weather, great food and drink. Anyone thinking of visiting Israel is invited to contact him for the inside track on navigating this unique country.

Victor Margolin: "I retired as a professor of design history from the University of Illinois at Chicago, 10 years ago. Since my retirement, I completed the first two volumes of my *World History of Design*. In October 2015, I suffered a spinal cord injury while at a design conference in South Korea, and I am now in a wheelchair, working on recovery.

"In May 2017, my wife, Sylvia, and I moved to Washington, D.C, to be near our daughter, Myra; her partner, Dave; and their baby, Olivia. With the help of a collaborator, I work on the third and last volume of *World History of Design*. I have met up with **Allan Wallach** and his wife, Phyllis. Allan retired from William & Mary, where he was a professor of art history."

Paul Gorrin: "I've become a member of the Rehoboth Beach Writers Guild and will be using an affiliated workshop setting to enable me, at long last, to finish my play, *Crossing Brooklyn Bridge*. The play explores the relationship of bridge builder Washington Roebling and his wife, Emily Roebling, who filled in for him to supervise bridge construction while he was recovering from injuries sustained in battling the fire in one of the wood caissons on which the towers were being built (and remain in the river bed). When one walks across the bridge and looks out over the splendor of New Harbor, one may pass the plaque that recognizes Emily's contribution to its completion. Years ago an earlier version of this play was presented at the Writers Theatre in a staged reading directed by **Arthur Strimling.**"

Michael Lubell: "I have been largely absent from Columbia because I have been scrambling to find a new perch in D.C. after the American Physical Society decided that my services were no longer needed following Trump's election — a long, disconcerting story. I should have something fairly big to announce soon about my future with the Aspen Institute and *PBS NewsHour*. In the meantime, I have been consumed with a manuscript for a book that was due at the publisher by the end of

2017 — my fall semester sabbatical should have helped me get it done. Also, my colleague Burt Richter and I have been publishing a number of op-eds in *The New York Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *The Hill* and *Scientific American.* A link to our latest piece, which has gotten a lot of traffic: lnkd.in/dxAP7u4."

Robert Smith: "I'm active in my practice and research in my mid-70s. My supervisor is still going strong at 96. I have a small private practice and am associated with the NYU School of Medicine and the Nathan Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research. We have ongoing psychiatry clinical and biochemical research with our China colleagues and I go to China twice a year. We are finishing up mRNA in lymphocytes of schizophrenics at NKI. My wife, Sultana, who is slightly older, is teaching French at Hofstra. Many of my research colleagues in their 70s and 80s are still active and productive."

Our regular class lunches (for now, we are still gathering at the Princeton Club) are always a great place to reconnect. If you're back in NYC, try to make one of the lunches this winter. The next are on January 11, February 8 and March 8.

1964

Norman Olch
233 Broadway
New York, NY 10279
norman@nolch.com

In 1999 **Mike Wallace** GSAS'73 was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in History for *Gotham*, which traces the history of New York City from the 16th century to 1898. In *Greater Gotham: A History of New York City from 1898 to 1919* Mike covers only the next 20 years in 1,196 pages, but as a *New York Times* review says, "But, oh, what years they were!" The review calls the book a "magisterial" account that "tells the story of those two decades with encyclopedic sweep and granular detail, but with enough verve and wry humor to make this doorstop immensely readable." In a *New York Times* interview Mike says Volume III is almost done. Whether there will be a Volume IV "depends on sufficient longevity."

Martin Krieger GSAS'69 writes: "I am semi-retired as a professor of planning at the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California. I received a Ph.D. in physics, but soon after transitioned to urban planning, published four or five books in that area, and three or four about mathematics and physics and how they are done. I have lived off my Columbia education, both in the humanities and in physics. My son David (31) lives nearby. I am in NYC about 40 percent of the time, living in a pied à terre in Union Square. My most recent work is systematically photographing NYC."

Classmates are traveling. **Gary Schonwald** was in New York from London, **Peter Thall** went to London, **Bernard Catalinotto** sent greetings from Florence, Italy, and in December **Beril Lapson** was off to China for a month.

Don't forget to join us at the informal class lunch, held on the second Thursday of the month at the Princeton Club on West 43rd Street. The Columbia University Club of New York has officially left the Princeton Club for the Penn Club around the corner, but our lunch stays put.

By the time this arrives in your mailbox it will be 2018. I wish each of you and your loved ones a year of good health, peace, joy and prosperity.

1965

Leonard B. Pack
924 West End Ave.
New York, NY 10025
packlb@aol.com

I caught up with three classmates on the New York cultural scene. **Mike Tapper** and I attended the Mostly Mozart Festival concert on August 15 in David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center. The program included Brahms and Schumann, but no Mozart. Mike and I vowed at our 50th reunion to attend a performance together and it only took us two years to get around to doing it.

On September 27 my wife, Adele, and I went to see ballerina Tiler Peck make her debut in *Swan Lake* at the New York City Ballet. Seated in the same row were **Jim Siegel** and his wife, dance writer Wendy Perron. We all agreed it was a great performance, and you should be able to read Wendy's report online.

On October 23, **David Denby** joined me at the annual gala of Copland House in the Kaplan Penthouse of Lincoln Center. He told me he had been in touch with **Bob Caserio** recently. I am a board member of Copland House, a music organization devoted to preserving and extending the legacy of America's great composer Aaron Copland through the preservation and use for composer residencies of Copland's residence in Cortlandt Manor, N.Y., and supporting American composers through commissions, performances and educational programs in schools. Also in attendance were my brother Fred Pack '69 and Lawrence Faltz '68, the current and past presidents of Copland House, and Fred's wife, Sandy Pack SEAS'68. The program was a celebration of the life and music of Leonard Bernstein, who would have been 100 this year and who was a great friend of Copland's. I have my own memory of Bernstein and Copland from my years at Columbia, when I would often attend Bernstein's exciting concerts with the New York Philharmonic. At one concert, the orchestra played Copland's *Clarinet Concerto*, and after the performance Copland came up to the stage to share the applause. With his characteristic overenthusiasm, Bernstein prostrated himself on the floor before Copland and attempted to kiss his shoes. Copland would have none of it!

I wrote to **Jim Murdaugh** and **Ben Cohen** to see how they fared after Hurricane Harvey. Jim's report: "We think we're pretty clear now. Rain continued last night, but not so heavy. Our problem was Buffalo Bayou, which is very near our house. On Sunday, four houses across the street from us had four to six feet on their first floor. The bayou crossed the street and was at one point about five inches from our front door. Never seen anything like this! But it's gone down significantly, and the street in front of our house now is dry. [My husband] Gary says Rice University is just fine, but the law firm office building had six feet of water on the first floor. What a deal! … Love to all, Murds. P.S.: The dogs were brave gentlemen throughout; me — not so much."

After the flood waters subsided, Jim sent this follow-up: "Sunday afternoon I helped a neighbor across the street — tough, great, 81-year-old widow — evacuate to her grandson's place. He had to park a few blocks away. We waded through water almost up to my waist. She had four feet of water in her living room. We were a parade of 'essentials' including three cats, litter, food, etc. Then I noticed her grandson carrying leopard and mink coats, and finally the widow herself with a couple of bottles of vodka. I said, 'Surely your grandson has vodka?' She said, 'Yes, but I can't stand his brand.' Ain't Texans great?"

Ben was even luckier: "We are fine. In Colorado on vacation when the storm came. We will wait to go back till flooding is down. Right now the Houston airports are closed until 'indefinitely.' …. Thanks for your concern."

Gene Feldman: "I was in touch with **Frank Rosenthal** last summer. Frank was a fellow physics major and my senior year roommate. We shared a fourth-floor walkup on West 123rd Street and Amsterdam Avenue with Donald Norris '66. (Donald started with our class. If you know how to reach him, please let me know at feldman.gene@gmail.com)

"Frank enjoyed playing clarinet in the excellent college band. He persuaded Don and me to climb Mount Marcy in the Adirondacks, where we battled aggressive black flies and struggled to find our car. He stayed on at Columbia for a Ph.D. in physics, then transitioned to occupational health and safety. He taught that at Purdue, from which he retired recently. He and his wife, Sheila, have four sons, and they still climb in the Adirondacks and bicycle long-distance. I would have reached out to Frank sooner, but his death was falsely reported in this magazine decades ago."

I climbed Mount Marcy as an 11-year-old in summer camp in the Adirondacks. I wrote to Gene that I remember how hard it was to get back down the mountain and how much my legs hurt the next day. Gene responded, "Good story! Descending is tough on the knees and the legs, for sure. Do you remember the flies? We used a stinky repellent, Old Woodsman Fly Dope, I recall."

I do not remember the flies, just my sore legs!

Bob Gunn: "I am pleased to announce the publication of the first two volumes of my memoir, *One Bright Pearl* (Volume I one is subtitled *An Unholy Memoir*; Volume II is subtitled *God is the Source of My Life*), available on Amazon and Kindle. In the memoir, I try to do regarding myself what I did to Dōgen Zen-ji, Thomas Merton '38 and Carl Jung in my first book, *Journeys Into Emptiness: Dōgen, Merton, Jung and the Quest for Transformation*: To make the psychological and spiritual connections between the men and their

writings as struggles with experiences of emptiness. I hope I will complete Volume III, to be subtitled *Song of Emptiness,* this year.

"While I'm updating my activities, let me relay that I continue my psychotherapy practice in Manhattan, am pastor of the Community Church of Syosset, N.Y. (United Church of Christ) and serve as a Soto Zen Buddhist priest at the Village Zendo in Manhattan. For those with whom I shared my Glee Club experience as accompanist and first tenor, I'm happy to report that I returned to studying piano about six years ago and continue with my teacher, Taka Kigawa. I try to give a concert each year and plan one to include Beethoven's *Fourth Piano Concerto* to be played with the Children's Orchestra Society, under Michael Dadap. Also of note is a DVD created by John Ankele, a friend of mine, about my so-far-successful battle with pancreatic cancer from a Zen/Christian perspective, called *One Body, One Heart,* available through olddogdocumentaries.org."

Richard Szathmary '67 is finishing a novel about the new unholy trinity of God, Old Nick and Harley Davidson. It's called The Baptized.

Michael Schlanger SW'19 is enrolled in a master's program at the School of Social Work. Part of Michael's coursework is to write a weekly piece about a newspaper article. Here is one he shared with me in early October:

"My newspaper article for the week is *The New York Times*' 'Wild Horses and the Inmates Who "Gentle" Them,' subtitled 'On a ranch in the high desert of Nevada, the men and the mustangs help one another.' [written by Steven Kurutz, in the October 6, 2017, print edition]. First, I hope classmates will take the time to read it; it is so sweet, so touching, so enduring, it will bring you to your knees.

"The article tells the story of inmates at the Northern Nevada Correctional Center who work at the Silver State Industries ranch in Carson City, 'gentling' horses. Gentling refers to working with a wild horse until it becomes responsive to a trainer's commands, meaning that it no longer wants to kick you in the face. If handled properly, it even bonds with its trainer.

"Gentling a horse takes enormous time, patience, commitment and devotion to helping another living creature, a 1,600-lb., strong-willed creature, became peaceful, trusting, ready to become part of a community … Success for the inmate (and the horse) is measurable in long-term outcome: To free mustangs from their current confinement to a better, freer life. … For me, the story is as beautiful an allegory as Dan Fogelberg's *Run for the Roses*, and as *Seabiscuit*. In *Seabiscuit*, the wise and weathered trainer offers a meditation on rehabilitating a damaged horse: 'You don't throw a whole life away just because it's a little banged up.' As I noted in one of our Class Notes, for 10 years, I was class-action counsel to the 2,000 inmates of Lorton Reformatory in prison disciplinary cases that reached the Supreme Court and that were decided in the prisoners' favor. (At the time, my clients preferred being called 'prisoners.' They had no interest in sugar-coating what the Federal Bureau of Prisons did to them.) Whether it is the provision of due process hearings in conditions-of-confinement proceedings, or the provision of meaningful educational/vocational programs — like the Wild Horse Program — prison inmates need to be treated with dignity and humanity; to be treated as men."

On October 17, **Walter Reich** announced an important film screening at The George Washington University: "The first screening of portions of the documentary film series *Searching for the Unknown Holocaust* took place today at the Woodrow Wilson Center ... It was utterly stunning. It focused on the Jews who were murdered in Russia and Belarus during the Holocaust. Although the Jews of the former Soviet Union were a large part of the total number of Holocaust victims — about 2.7 million — far less is known about them than about the Jews who were murdered in the rest of Europe. This is partly a result of the fact that many of these Jews were executed near the towns, villages and cities in which they lived, in some places in the tens of thousands, without much documentation of who was killed, and partly a result of the fact that it became Soviet policy under Stalin to not identify the victims as Jews. What filmmaker Boris Maftsir has done, during the last few years, has been to travel to those areas and to find witnesses to the murders, of whom there are few who survive. In his films, Maftsir interviews them and learns the stories of the many places of death.

"I'm sure that many of those who saw today's screening share my renewed sense of grief about the dead and my immense sense of awe about the filmmaker's accomplishment in bringing those dead closer to public memory. As Maftsir, said in his comments at the Wilson Center, a person dies three times: Once when that person dies, once again when that person is buried, and once again when that person is forgotten. These may have been the most forgotten victims of the Holocaust. Maftsir's project attempts to address, if only slightly and almost too late, that final death by forgetting. His achievement rivals that of Claude Lanzmann who, in his monumental documentary/testimony film, *Shoah*, made more than 30 years ago, introduced a large audience to an important dimension of Holocaust memory."

1966

Rich Forzani
413 Banta Ave.
Garfield, NJ 07026
rforzani1@optonline.net

Writing in late October, I am in awe of the performance of our Lion football squad. I have just returned from our win at Dartmouth, which pitted the last two undefeated teams in the Ivies. Big Green was a 6.5-point favorite, but we won 22–17 to go 6–0. The next huge hurdle is Yale, who is favored by 8.5. Fingers crossed. Go Lions. With luck, this is our best team in more than a century; four years ago we were in the midst of a 22-game losing streak. Some change.

While at the game I serendipitously sat next to **Fred Lerner,** a resident of White River Junction, Vt., for many years. He recently retired from the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, where he produced the PILOTS Database, an online index to the worldwide psychotrauma.

On the same note, **Rich Beggs, Tom Chorba, Harvey Kurzweil** and I are particularly happy with the course of football this year. All of us were intimately involved with the Committee for Athletic Excellence at Columbia, which initiated the demands for drastic changes to the football (and all sports) program four years ago, directly resulting in the successes we see today. Rich served with me on the Steering Committee and both Harvey and Tom provided much appreciated support.

From **Stanley Felsinger,** who tore up the hardwood for our Lions back in the day: "Three years ago my wife, Hope, and I sold Camp Monroe, which we owned for 40 years. All seven of our children are now married, with the last two married on November 9 and November 29. Our 25th grandchild was born three months ago. We live in Lakewood, N.J., where six of our seven families live. We are in good health and love the time we have daily with our family. We don't miss the business end of camp, but do miss the positive impact we were able to have on the lives of thousands of children and young adults. I would love to find another outlet where I could use the people and counseling skills I developed. I have very fond memories of Columbia, both on and off the court, and would enjoy hearing from old friends. Writing this brings a nostalgic feeling and a broad smile."

Jesse Berman advises, "I am alive and well, and I am still at my office in Manhattan, practicing criminal defense."

Bob Meyerson tells us: "Nothing good to report. My wife ran off with an Alsatian — if you find her in Metz with her canine lover please let me know. My history of toe fungus was rejected by Columbia University Press and the Mayo Clinic threw me out of the examining room upon learning that the history was an autobiography. The Trump administration short-listed me for an ambassadorship to Russia until they found out that I actually knew something about Russia and had been writing *Make America Grate Again* under the name of Czar Chasm. But I haven't succumbed to despair …"

Calvin Johnson advises: "I am the John T. Kipp Chair at University

of Texas Law School. I'm writing to make the tax system fairer and more efficient. We need to follow the money up in the coming very hard times. This is probably not my tide, nor my ship, nor my time, but it is the time to draw up the war plans."

From **Joe Steinberger:** "Does anyone have a child younger than my son, Takuma, who turned 10 on July 28? Tak is set to inherit the family sushi bar, Suzuki's, here in Rockland, Maine."

My wife, Kathy, and I did a road trip to Bar Harbor and stopped in Rockland for dinner with Joe. The place was jammed. His lovely wife, Keiko, was behind the sushi station creating her art, so couldn't join except for a brief hello. I will say that, having enjoyed sushi/sashimi on several continents for many decades, this was by far the best experience we have ever had. The presentation, the freshness and the taste were phenomenal. Small wonder it is the top-rated location in Maine.

Michael Harrison writes, "JoAnn Schonfeld Harrison BC'66 and I met at the end of our senior year and were married a year later in July. We celebrated our 50th anniversary with a trip to Israel and London, where we greatly enjoyed time with close friends and family, along with local celebrations in Bethesda, Md., where we have lived since 2003. Aside from sharing some of the same things that we did way back when, we now enjoy spending time with our granddaughters (5, 11 and 13), who live nearby. JoAnn leads a tolerance-focused neighborhood group, and I work full time as a researcher in the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, part of the Department of Health and Human Services."

Maurice "Rick" Reder BUS'68: "I retired last year and moved to Miami Beach after being on the Upper West Side since 1962. My partner, Jack TC'83, and I helped raise our kids, Samantha and Dylan, and now have four delightful grandchildren. Jack and I recently returned from a trip with our New York synagogue to Vienna and Budapest. Visiting empty synagogues and reading family names at a concentration camp and at a Holocaust Museum was harsh. In Budapest the current ads denigrating Soros and his European University on billboards and on the floors of trains mirror the statue of a Jew being forced to scrub the street in Vienna. Here we will find out if Ayn Rand's political ideas, believed by a professor while I was studying for my Columbia M.B.A., will subvert our democracy."

Richard Postupak writes: "I returned in late summer from my West Coast jaunt anxious to shed the intensity of the campaign trail. Even if one is in the catering end of politics, the pressure still gets to you, and the Trump entourage was not forgiving when it came to their chow. I was fortunate enough to spend some time unwinding with **Harvey Kurzweil** and his lovely wife, Barbara, at their summer home on Nantucket, where Harvey and I regaled each other (and undoubtedly bored Barbara to tears) with recollections of our college days. Harv is as sharp as ever. I remember the debates we had in Furnald Hall; Hobbes vs. Locke, Kant vs. Nietzsche and so on. He was tireless, and still is. The two of us bonded many years ago over our mutual intellectual tenacity."

Phil Goldstein: "Five years ago I retired from the University of Delaware, where I taught English and philosophy for 30 years. Since then I have traveled to Ireland, Turkey, the Mediterranean and other places; taken up tennis because I could not play basketball anymore; published essays on American literature and cultural theory; and spent months in Manhattan visiting family and going to Columbia and CUNY for interesting talks."

1967

Albert Zonana
425 Arundel Rd.
Goleta, CA 93117
az164@columbia.edu



The 1967 lightweight crew team reunited at Homecoming 2017 for a row on the Harlem River. Left to right: Marty Goldstein '67, Bob Mauri '67, Ken Thomae '67, Dave Green '69, Jon Jarvik '67, Bob Malsberger '67, Peter Cherneff '68, Gerry Botha '67, David Blanchard '67, Eric Dannemann '67 and Heikki Hannikainen '64.

Our championship lightweight crew reunited at Homecoming and went for a row on the Harlem River. **David Blanchard** wrote, "It was a great day with Columbia winning the game with a come-from-behind overtime effort. Wow! We had rowers from as far away as Santa Barbara (Dave Green '69), Santa Monica (**Marty Goldstein**) and Italy (Heikki Hannikainen '64). The mostly 1967 crew also included **Eric Dannemann, Ken Thomae, Jon Jarvik, Bob Malsberger, Bob Mauri** and Peter Cherneff '68. We were reminded of the true legend of Heikki leaping out of the boat during a practice to save a little girl who had fallen in the Harlem River.

Text from the AP story on the incident: "The Columbia University crew was working out yesterday in the Harlem River when a little girl fell into the swirling waters. Out of the shell plunged 21-year-old Heikki Hannikainen, son of the Finnish ambassador to Peru. Struggling in the cold water 50 yards away was 7-year-old Ann Cushin. Hannikainen, breasting the strong under currents, said he was lucky 'because suddenly I hit the right current and found myself right next to her.' Blonde Ann had luck, too. Her parka filled with air kept her afloat until the college student reached her. Both were picked up by a launch. Ann's mother said: 'God bless that boy. That boy could have drowned himself. What a wonderful, brave thing to do, God bless him.' Commented Hannikainen: 'There's a warm feeling in my stomach.'"

We heard from a few more classmates this month. **Herb Zarov:** "I spent 10 years in academia, then almost 40 practicing law, most of them as a litigator at Mayer Brown in Chicago. I have three sons and eight accomplished grandchildren. I will retire at last at the end of the year and spend my time reading, writing, gardening, playing golf, doing some pro bono board work, traveling, cultivating family and friends, and enjoying this wonderful time of life with my beloved wife. I'm profoundly grateful for my years at the College. They enriched my life in countless ways."

Peter Engel: "Sorry I missed the reunion. I live in Cincinnati and am happily unmarried. I'm a cardiologist practicing at a large community hospital, specializing in a disease called pulmonary hypertension as part of a large group of physicians. Have done a lot of traveling in Europe and Asia. I have no plans to retire until someone tells me I have to."

Richard Szathmary: "For anyone who might remember me, after a long career of writing for both consumer and business publications, I'm finishing a novel about the new unholy trinity of God, Old Nick and Harley Davidson. It's called *The Baptized* and it's about Satanism, bike clubs and the rot beneath the facade of life in Jersey's affluent suburbs. You know, the usual stuff, plus declining fertility rates among yuppies. I still sigh when I walk by what used to be the old Psi U house on West 114th, too, but those students deserved what they got and brought it upon themselves. I've proudly held season tickets for football and basketball for 25 years, and it's finally paying off in both sports. Feels good. And my daughter Zoe, after stints at CNN and *The Daily Mail*, now works at Fox News as a writer for its website. I'm very proud of this Rutgers grad."

Bob Bloch: "I'm a professor of physiology at the University of Mary-



Matthew Jinoo Buck '17, Roger Lehecka '67 and Abigail Sharkey '18 at a gathering at Janet Lorin '95's home celebrating some of the Roger Lehecka Fellows who received funding in Summer 2016.

land School of Medicine, enjoying a bit of teaching and a lot of research."

Allen Spiegel: "After 12 years as dean of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, I will leave administration behind to rejoin the faculty in June. I hope to spend my next few years teaching and serving on boards of nonprofit institutions with missions relevant to biomedical research, education and healthcare."

Be sure to inform the Alumni Office of your current email address (college.columbia.edu/cct/content/contact-us). And be sure to write to me at az164@columbia.edu!

1968

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776

Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Arthur Spector
One Lincoln Plaza, Apt. 25K
New York, NY 10023
arthurbspector@gmail.com

I apologize for the last column being relatively empty of pearls of wisdom; this one is going to be a challenge, as I have a plethora of news. I saw the amazing come-from-behind overtime Homecoming win over Penn and saw at the game **Peter Cherneff, Tom Sanford, Ira Goldberg, Paul de Bary** and **David Ehrlich.** What a win it was!

Our reunion is Thursday, May 31—Sunday, June 2, and it is going to have a great turnout with lots of good times and good programming. At the time of writing we have a Reunion Committee of 132 from across the world. This size committee is a first for the College for a 50th reunion, boding well for the turnout!

I heard directly and indirectly from many classmates who expect to attend reunion — more than enough news for 10 columns, so I am going to shorten a good deal and maybe even leave out some (I know, a criminal offense that will result in punishment for me). I had so much fun talking to classmates. **Steve Gottlieb,** a nationally ranked senior tennis player, is so funny — I am still chuckling. **Jim Shorter, John Roy, Mas Taketomo, Alan Zucker, Paul de Bary** and others have contacted classmates. I heard from **Bob Chapla,** who was off to Hanover to watch the Lions play. **John Roy** stayed in Naples and now is back at his home, which survived Irma, though his banana trees were disrupted. He continues to teach. **Ed Keller** is a tenured professor at CCNY and is having a great time, having switched professions maybe 20 years ago. **Len Oppenheim** is doing great — trading still and traveling more. He spent time in India and seems to have found some peace through it all; he mediates twice a day, which sounds like a good idea.

I saw **Ross Ain** at Wm. Theodore "Ted" de Bary '41, GSAS'53's memorial; we sang *Sans Souci* together then visited an art exhibition of one of his friends from Cape Cod; Ross is still that great guy I know from a long time ago. Actually, he might be aging with more grace. His daughter was about to have her third child and it sounds like Ross is enjoying the kids and expects to see Len on the Cape this summer. I got a note as part of a group from **Paul Brosnan,** that star pitcher from Arlington, Mass., like me. I found out that he has the strikeout record, with Lou Gehrig '23, and is proud of the great baseball program at Columbia. I spoke to **John Arch,** who is doing well in Sarasota, Fla. I always thought that **Richard Taylor** was brilliant and funny; he wrote, "I am coming in from the cold, turning myself in. Please add me to the reunion list."

I spoke to **Peter Greene;** he's warm, gracious and good-humored. I spoke to **Andy Herz** while he was in Los Angeles, teaching real estate courses and seeing grandkids. **Richard Taylor** and I have a dinner plan to meet at restaurant Ala Shanghai, halfway between my country home and his home. Richard lives in Lenox, Mass. **Ray Englander** was in grand humor and sounded like he could run a marathon; he told me a story about him and **John Arch** getting stuck in New Jersey after a double date. He has stayed in touch with **Bill Isom;** Texas Bill will be coming to reunion. **Tony Kao** is still doing great work as an architect. **Greg Winn** sent notes from his three-month trip all over Europe and Russia. He will be back and we might collude to get **Neil Anderson** to leave Naples — where he, Greg and **John Roy** live — to come to reunion. I believe **Tom Reed** lives there; we are looking for him. **Randy Vaughan** sent a note from Lisbon and then London. I hear regularly from **Robert Brandt;** he is vigorously climbing mountains, biking and doing his day job.

I talk to **John Roy** regularly and he is glad to know some swimmers are coming, like **Frank Dann,** who sounds well, is working hard and is in great humor. I did speak to former judge (but I guess always judge) **Peter Benitez.** He lives in the Southwest when not in the Hamptons, but he should be back, so I bet he comes. He sounds great. I enjoyed seeing **Buzz Zucker** — we ate at a Brazilian restaurant in October. He continues to go to shows on and Off- Broadway; it is a special love affair with acting and playwrights. He has seen hundreds of shows (and that is probably a low estimate). Heard from **Doug Freundlich,** who is teaching music; I will never forget his playing the Japanese koto instrument for me. **Seth Weinstein** looks great and is working on development projects — and is helping with reunion, too. **Tom Sanford** is doing so much for the reunion as chair of the fund drive. I saw him at Homecoming with grandkids having a grand time — and we both love wins, of course! Tom also recently saw **George Bernstein** for dinner, with their wives, in New Orleans. **Frank Costello** is coming to reunion with new knees; he said to tell **Art Brown** and the rest of us that he was looking forward to seeing us. We are looking forward to seeing him all the way from bucolic L.A.

From **Nigel Paneth:** "I'm working full time and remain involved in the epidemiologic research that has defined my scientific life, namely, what is it that happens in pregnancy and around birth that contributes to neurodevelopmental impairment in children? I am fortunate to have wonderful colleagues and sufficient success with the granting agencies to keep my work sustained. My wife, Ellen GSAS '79, has retired from the English department here at Michigan State, but finds much to do, especially around home and garden, both here and at our place in Southern Vermont.

"We have the remarkable good fortune to have had our younger daughter, Tessa BC'07, and her husband, Oren, join the faculty at Michigan State in 2015. Oren is in economics and Tessa in art history. Having them nearby would be joy enough, but in addition, they have given us our first grandchild. Yoav was born last March and we seem him as often as we could wish. Our elder daughter, Rachel BC'02, married Leo last summer, and they live in Maryland, just outside Washington, D.C. Rachel works in family medicine in D.C., and Leo practices labor law. I'll remind everyone that both my daughters are proud Barnard graduates.

"Looking forward to joining many classmates at our 50th reunion."

From **John Davis:** "My wife and I joined the local art museum recently and found a painting at the exhibit by my former roommate **Albin Beyer,** who had an award-winning painting (a gouache to be precise) on display. I gave him a call and spent a great evening with him. He is chair of the Fine Arts Department of the University of South Carolina in Aiken. He is quite a spectacular painter with some large paintings of the South Carolina woods. It was a fun evening. I'm a sur-

gery resident program director missing the icy winters of the northeast."

I spoke to **Paul Spitzberg,** a renowned poker player, I believe. He is doing well but might have to be in Las Vegas during reunion (but he might be able to fly in for one day). I heard from **Hollis Petersen.** His home in the Keys survived the hurricane well, but not the yard. I hope to see him, being that I am in Miami Beach — an easy drive, I hope, if they fixed the roads. **Robin Resnick** is in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. I am looking forward to seeing him. Especially interested in music and singing at reunion are **Jeff Kurnit** and **Rich Rosenblum. Bruce Margon** will be coming. I had an email exchange with him about the expanding universe — a topic I suspect he is one of the world's experts on (I gather he had a prominent role with the Hubble telescope). **Peter Finkelstein** is in Menlo Park with Upstart Logic. He was sitting at the Ritz (sounds like a Fred Astaire dance song) in London when I reached him.

Heard from **Dan Carr,** whom I suspect is still in Chestnut Hill teaching, doing research and lots more. **Steve Ross**' email was all good — he is executive principal of Risk Masters. He wants us to do something to commemorate those in our class who have passed away and sadly there are so many, although it sounds like we still have a lot of vigorous, alert and cheerful ones around. **Bill Henrich** and his wife, Mary, are coming to reunion — more Texans! He has had a stunning career in academia and as president of The University of Texas Health Science Center at St. Antonio. I heard from a New York medical school professor that **Ken Tomecki** is a national star at Cleveland Clinic. I got an email from him as he was traveling around China. I talked a couple of times with **Janet Furman;** she is still running and is expecting to have a good time at reunion. **Cliff Latting** is coming from Alabama; he has had a career in medicine and is noted for his beneficence in his community. **Leigh-Wai Doo** and I spoke for quite a while; he lives in Hawaii and we are all invited. He and **Ira McCown** were classmates at Harvard Law. **Bill Chin** is professor of medicine at Harvard. So many others are coming from Boston! **Reid Feldman, Pat Dumont** and **Steve Pierce** are coming from France, and **Bob Weisell** from Italy, and I hope **John Chee** makes it from Hong Kong. It is a long trip but I don't think it would be the same without John. **Bill Abodeely** sounds great; he is happy to play golf on South Lawn. **Jon Bauman** can still charm and sing.

I have randomly selected names from a long list; I missed dozens of folks so I might need a safe space at reunion. Let me seek forgiveness now; it might take a while. I did this all from memory so there might be errors. I hope everyone is in good spirits and enjoying each day one at a time. I will augment the next column to include the reporting that I didn't finish here. If you know someone who is undecided about reunion, encourage them to come. It is going to be a smash hit on Broadway — better than Rodgers, Hart and Hammerstein.

1969

Michael Oberman
Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
1177 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
moberman@kramerlevin.com

Some replies to my September 18 blast email follow. Due to word limit, a few are held for the next column.

From **Jeff Schwartz** GSAS'74: "My wife, Lynn (poet, also tenured professor at the University of Pittsburgh), and I announced our retirement for the end of this academic year — May 2, 2018. Although professors, we've saved and lived modestly but comfortably and can retire at ages where we can still do things. Since Lynn travels a lot to give readings, do workshops, etc., and I travel for what is now research for my own edification and delight — mostly on human fossils these days — and don't do these things together, we plan to spend our good fortune on vacations together, and spend more time in our Upper East Side flat, our big splurge. But we are keeping the Pittsburgh house for when NYC is not user-friendly. One thing about this flat is anticipating going to our reunion and not having to worry about flights and hotels — just have a good time and reunite with old friends."

Stephan Bodian leads retreats and online classes in spiritual awakening and has no plans to retire. His most recent book, *Beyond Mindfulness: The Direct Approach to Lasting Peace, Happiness, and Love,* critiques the increasingly popular practice and offers a more direct approach to self-realization based on the nondual wisdom tradition of Zen, Tibetan Buddhism and Advaita Vedanta. Plus, like the rest of us, he can't believe he just turned 70! "Seems like only yesterday I was waiting on line for tickets at the Fillmore East," he says.

Joe Chasnoff: "While at Columbia I was personal secretary to Rabbi Isidor Hoffman (Class of 1920), who retired from Columbia after our freshman year and became executive secretary of the Jewish Peace Fellowship. I became a conscientious objector to the Vietnam War, a decision that has guided me into service to my country. First as a peacekeeper in Nicaragua, where I took an active role in opposition to the U.S.-sponsored Contra War, and in Guatemala where, along with internationalists from Europe and Canada, I helped (through peaceful presence) to protect Native Americans under attack from the U.S.-backed Guatemalan military. The conflict between basic human rights and the dark side of American culture has been formative in my life, and I'm sure the same is true for many of our classmates. Presently I'm chairperson of a solar co-op in Monroe County, W.Va., where I've lived for more than four decades, making a living as a cabinet maker and artist in wood. I'm building by hand, one board at a time, a 2,500-sq.-ft. home for me and my wife and am looking forward to a Thanksgiving celebration with my two daughters and my darling granddaughter, my brother and sister, and their families."

From **John Gaguine:** "I am retired in Juneau, Alaska. I have four wonderful grandchildren: Harrison (5) in Portland, Ore.; Lilah (4) in Juneau; Gabby (2) in Portland; and Benjamin (18 months) in Juneau. In August my wife and I went to Madras, Ore., to see the total eclipse. Madras, in the high desert of Oregon east of the Cascades was, according to NASA, the least likely place in the path of totality to have cloud cover. Despite the awful traffic (after the eclipse it took us four hours to go five miles) and my dislike of tent camping, it was worth it for the two minutes of totality — indeed, for the instant that the last sliver of the sun disappeared and the corona blossomed. I read about an actor who had seen the eclipse as a young teen and was blown away. Years later, when he had sex for the first time, he said it was fantastic but not as great as the eclipse.

"A fond memory of Carman Hall (actually, not very fond): People would tie a thread to the emergency stop switches in the elevators, tie the thread to something outside of the elevators and then send the elevators up. The thread would then pull the stop switch down, incapacitating the elevators. I guess this was consistent with the constant shower of glass objects from campus-facing dorm rooms onto the roof of Ferris Booth Hall."

Bill Bonvillian: "I have stepped down from my position directing MIT's Washington office after 11 years and now teach courses on innovation policy at MIT and lead a research project examining new ways to better deliver workforce education. My new book, *Advanced Manufacturing: The New American Innovation Policies*, was released in December."

Mark Webber: "I now have something in common with Donald Trump. We both have taken on new jobs at 70. After 43 years of practicing in the private sector, I assumed a new position on September 25 — chief assistant law director for labor and employment for the City of Cleveland. I look forward to this new chapter in my legal career."

From **David Bradley:** "I recently retired and became emeritus professor of linguistics at La Trobe University in Australia. I have been president of the UNESCO Comité International Permanent des Linguistes since 2015 and will chair the 20th International Congress of Linguists in Cape Town, South Africa, in July. We have also continued our research and practical work with several communities in Thailand, Burma and China for the maintenance and development of their languages — notably Lisu, on which we are about to publish a grammar."

Hart Perry: "My son Nick Kopple-Perry is a psychiatrist at Mount Sinai. My son Michael has decided on a music career. My wife, Dana Perry, is running a wedding and real estate business on our estate (southwoodestate.com). I have a wood business (southwoodwoodproducts.com) and a herd of goats for land clearing. I have finished editing *Willie Mitch-*

ell: Solid Soul on the key architect of the Memphis Sound (late '60s and '70s). I made the film with Steve Jordan (drummer/producer); it has featured interviews with Al Green and Keith Richards."

David Sokal: "News from the Male Contraception Initiative: With support from a major donor, we're awarding a $500,000 grant this month [September], and expect to award several smaller grants of $150,000 by January or February 2018. If any alumni are interested in helping develop a male contraceptive, our major donor is feeling a little lonely and is looking for company. On a more personal note, I helped organize a family reunion in NYC and saw parts of the city that I had never seen, including — believe it or not — the inside of Central Park. … As part of the reunion, we did an escape room. It was a lot of fun, and my poker expertise helped solve one of the puzzles that stumped the younger folks. We escaped with six minutes to spare. If you haven't tried one of these it's a lot of fun and works best with a team of at least four people — we had nine, aged 20 to 69 (me)."

Now retired from his job at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Fredric Fastow '69 has started taking ballet lessons.

From **Fredric Fastow:** "I retired from my job in the law department of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. I turned 70 and (following my daughters' examples) have started taking ballet lessons — with the same teacher they had. I continue to run, bike and do music."

Fred Pack and his wife, Sandy Pack SEAS'68, spend much of their year in Vail, Colo., where they ski in the winter and hike, bike and enjoy the mountains in the summer. This year they went with their friend Brandon Ford GS'03, a full-time Vail resident, to Douglas, Wyo., and saw the total eclipse of the sun on August 21.

From **Francis Levy:** "My third novel, *Tombstone: Not a Western,* will be released this year. I blog at The Screaming Pope and on The Huffington Post. I have been practicing traditional Japanese karate for 26 years and have attained the rank of Sensei, or fourth-degree black belt. I think back fondly on CC and am grateful for the Core Curriculum and the terrific foundation it provided."

Marty Konikoff: "On the Saturday afternoon of Reunion 2017 I had the great pleasure of participating in a performance by the Columbia University Alumni Singers, as we are now called, at an Affinity Group Reception. All former members of the Glee Club, Barnard-Columbia Chorus, Barnard Gilbert & Sullivan Society, Kingsmen and so on were welcome to join. 'Lifting voices in joyful song' were Rich Rosenblum '68, Robby Levine '68, Jeff Kurnit '68, John Mueser '71, Abby Kurnit BC'68 and others too numerous to list here. Our program consisted of numbers from Barnard G&S, Glee Club and the Kingsmen (aka Sha Na Na). The audience then joined for a hearty rendition of a set of College songs. While these musical reunions are extremely cathartic, I never fail to get misty-eyed when singing, 'We're all young together and the best of life's ahead' from the *Columbia Marching Song*. Sing, Lions, sing."

1970

Leo G. Kailas
Reitler Kailas & Rosenblatt
885 Third Ave., 20th Fl.
New York, NY 10022
lkailas@reitlerlaw.com

I had the pleasure of interviewing my Furnald Hall RA, **Andy Kiorpes,** over breakfast while Andy was in New York for a family event. Andy lives in Minneapolis and is a semi-retired professor and consulting toxicologist. He is president of the American College of Toxicology and a director of the American Board of Toxicology. He is proud of the fact that he might be the only College graduate to have retired as a large-animal veterinarian! Andy's two daughters are both artists and he sends warm regards to his classmates, including **David Lehman** (more on David follows).

Law school professor **David Sokolow** GSAS'71, LAW'79 reports, "I took my annual 'reunion' trip with **Ted Wirecki** and **Joel Mintz** in June. Unfortunately, **Doug Sabrin** couldn't join us this year. As always, it was great fun. We took in the Art Institute, cheered on the Cubs in a losing effort, walked the shores of Lake Michigan and ate at some excellent restaurants. The only drugs consumed were statins and baby aspirin!

"The highlight of my year was winning a gold medal at the World Bridge Championships in Wroclaw, Poland, where I captained my wife's team to victory in the World Women's Teams. Thirty-five countries participated. It was much better than winning the silver medal in Chennai, India, last year! Captaining a women's bridge team is way tougher than being a law professor — my students don't give me flack! I recently started my 37th year at UT Austin School of Law. I love teaching and have no plans to retire."

Robert Launay, my Bronx Science classmate, is a professor of anthropology at the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern University. He is also the interim director of the Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA), where he heads a program to educate African curators on techniques related to the preservation of African Arabic script manuscripts. Robert is quoted, "Contrary to the assumption that Africa has only oral history, these Arabic script manuscripts show a long and elaborate written tradition in the continent." ISITA is the first research center in the United States devoted entirely to the study of Islam and Africa.

David Lehman, poetry chair at the New School Writing Program and editor of *The Best American Poetry* (a publication you should all sign up for), wrote an endearing tribute ("Remembering JA") to the great American poet John Ashbery GSAS'50 upon the latter's death. David notes that he and his wife had recently been watching the movie *Marjorie Prime,* "when the character played by Tim Robbins suddenly and without preamble quotes the opening six lines of Ashbery's wonderful poem, 'At North Farm.'" After describing someone who is traveling furiously toward you, through blizzards and desert heat, Ashbery asks, "But will he know where to find you, Recognize you when he sees you, Give you the thing he has for you?" David has an uncanny ability to make poetry and poets sound amazingly interesting, always the sign of a great writer!

1971

Jim Shaw
139 North 22nd St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
jes200@columbia.edu

Happy 2018, Class of '71! While there is no news for this issue, it's the perfect time to reach out to me so that we can have a robust Spring column. Share your plans for the New Year or your reflections on the year gone by; classmates want to hear from you. *Remember, we are still connected.*

1972

Paul S. Appelbaum
39 Claremont Ave., #24
New York, NY 10027
pappel1@aol.com

Jerry Groopman says, "Sorry that I missed reunion — my wife, Pam, and I were in Europe and Israel. Our big news is the arrival last year of two granddaughters, first Eliza and then Leah. Clichés endure because they are true: Grandchildren bring profound joy, without the diaper changes and the 2 a.m. feedings. Eliza is in Kansas City, where my son Mike '07 is the director of analytics for the Royals. Leah is close by in the Boston area, where my son Steve is a lawyer. My daughter Emily GSAS'22 is in the third year of the M.D./Ph.D. program at P&S. Much travel to see all!"

Speaking of travel, **Steven Hirschfeld** PS'83, a captain in the United States Public Health Service, was deployed to Florida last September to help with the disaster response to Hurricane Irma. He reflects on the experience: "While there was much disruption and displacement, the geographic displacement was in general on the order of 2–200 miles. The cultural and psychological displacement, however, from a personal home to the temporary shelter of a cot on the open

floor of a public building is challenging to measure, even if all the people in the space are similar. Under other circumstances minor differences in how people respond to change and stress can be magnified and exaggerated."

Steven is also assistant VP for research initiatives and compliance at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, where he works on improving methods for conducting clinical research.

Another very contented traveler is **Greg Vitercik,** who notes, "Within a month last summer, I retired after 30 years teaching in the music department at Middlebury College and my wife, Carol Murray BC'73, and I celebrated — quietly, to be sure — our 40th anniversary. Forty-one years ago, sitting on the edge of the fountain in front of Dodge, I explained to her that I was going to marry her, so I hoped she would go along with my plan. It turns out that Columbia touches almost everything in our lives. Our daughter, Ellen '15, and her very good friend, Rohan Sawhney '15, are both doing Ph.D.s in computer science at Carnegie Mellon. Carol and I are doing a lot of traveling, and I am in the deep midst of some sort of book on Wagner's *Der Ring des Nieblungen* — an undertaking that feels like climbing Everest in a Speedo. Life is very, very good."

Charles Kaiser catches us up: "Ever since I was a junior at Columbia I have been a journalist and an author. I spent my first eight years writing for the Metro section of *The New York Times*, the next two as press critic for *Newsweek* and then 13 months at *The Wall Street Journal*, where I covered media and book publishing. Since then I have spent most of my time writing books, with a couple of timeouts to teach (adjunct at the Journalism School, and the Ferris Professor at Princeton) and to blog (most happily for *CJR*). My newest book, *The Cost of Courage,* is about one family in the French Resistance. I've known its subject, the Boulloche family, all my life because my uncle Henry Kaiser was billeted with them in Paris in Fall 1944 when he was a lieutenant in the Army. Ever since I started visiting France in 1962, this is the family I have always stayed with. *The Cost of Courage* is the most tragic and dramatic story I have ever known. First published two years ago, it came out in paperback last spring and in France in June as *Le Prix du Courage.*

"Writing in *The Washington Post,* Jonathan Kirsch gave it the most glowing review I have ever received: go online to goo.gl/JMEMwG. *The Wall Street Journal* was also very enthusiastic: goo.gl/4sUxU7."

Charles, who recently became associate director of the LGBT Social Science and Public Policy Center at Hunter College, will appear in a CNN Soundtracks on the Stonewall Riot, and a documentary on the events of 1968. "I've been with my husband, artist Joe Stouter, for just short of 40 years. Thanks to some rare wisdom from the U.S. Supreme Court, we've also been married for the last four … Since freshman year in Livingston, I have always lived somewhere between 115th and 106th Streets, except for two and a half years in France to research my latest book. My two best friends from the Class of '72 are **Sal Matera** and **Steve Shapiro.** Sal lives across the street, and Steve is three blocks away."

And talking about the neighborhood, the big news as the school year began was the opening of an always-crowded Shake Shack on the corner of Broadway and 116th. You might remember the location as Chock full o'Nuts (but you're showing your age if you do).

1973

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776

Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Barry Etra
1256 Edmund Park Dr. NE
Atlanta, GA 30306
betra1@bellsouth.net

Gregory Peterson LAW'85 was selected by his peers for inclusion in *Best Lawyers in America* in real estate and in environmental law. He works for Boston law firm Casner and Edwards.

Congrats!

Joel Pfister is the Olin Professor of English and American Studies at Wesleyan and will be a visiting professor at the Université de Caen Normandie, where he will teach two graduate courses. His seventh book, on the critical work and pleasures of American movies, is under construction.

Writing is stuff sweet on the morrow. Pitch in, y'all! Send your news to betra1@bellsouth.net. Your classmates want to hear from you!

1974

Fred Bremer
532 W. 111th St.
New York, NY 10025
f.bremer@ml.com

There are many different rankings of colleges, each with a methodology that affects the outcome. The most commonly cited ranking, from *U.S. News & World Report*, seems to put greater emphasis on the qualities of the students admitted (such as SAT scores and class ranking). The *Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education* rankings explicitly state that they emphasize how well a college prepares students for life after graduation. While 15 factors are included in their calculations, 40 percent of each school's overall score comes from student outcomes (including graduation rates, incomes after graduation and the amount of student debt).

The latest edition of *U.S. News* rankings has Columbia College tied for fifth place among national universities. The *Wall Street Journal/Times* rankings put Columbia College in second place — ahead of all the other Ivy colleges (except Harvard) as well as the "near Ivies" like Stanford! Take that Yale (number 6) and Princeton (number 9)! Maybe the *WSJ/Times* rankings aren't so biased — just insightful!

It took **John Shea** (who lives in Lansdowne, Pa.) 43 years to send in a Class Note, but he had a lot to report. After 31 years as an editor and writer at Penn (the last 18 years as editor of *Penn Medicine*), John retired a year ago. He had earned a Ph.D. in English from Penn, but says teaching jobs were hard to find back then. In spare moments John has been a creative writer, publishing stories in such varied publications as *Partisan Review*, *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*, *The Twilight Zone Magazine*, *Literal Latte* and even in *Columbia* magazine. Last summer his first book was published ("a collection of innovative, aka quirky, short fiction pieces). Titled *Tales from Webster's*, it won the Tartts First Fiction Award from Livingston Press. He adds, "I'd like to think that Kenneth Koch would have gotten a kick out of *Tales*."

Last February, John's daughter, Molly, gave him "an incredibly beautiful and no doubt talented" granddaughter, Thea. Molly and her husband, Jason, are musicians (and Jason was previously in a band with the son of **Stephen O'Connor**). Son Zachary lives in Annapolis and works at the Maryland State Archives.

Other news from Pennsylvania came in from **Roger Cohen** (who lives in Lancaster, Pa.). Pennsylvania is at the forefront of the self-driving car revolution, and Roger co-heads the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) highly automated vehicle leadership team. His group received the 2017 President's Award for performance excellence from American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (the national organization of state transportation departments). Roger has been the policy director of PennDOT since July 2015.

Emerging successful from a field of 91 applicants, **Ron Mason** LAW'77 was selected as the new president of the University of the District of Columbia. The school's board described him as "a leader in the higher education community who has brought enhanced community relationships, responsible governance and a strong student-first focus to his past roles." Ron will be leaving his position as president of Southern University and A&M College system. His 30 years of experience includes serving as president of Jackson State University (in Missouri) and 18 years in various positions in the administration of Tulane. He earned a degree from the Harvard Institute of Education Management.

Can't mention Washington, D.C., without giving an update on veteran defense attorney **Abbe Lowell** LAW'77. He has taken on a new case that *Politico* calls "his toughest challenge yet." No, they were not referring to his defense of Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, in the Russian election probe. This case involves the defense of Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), who is charged with accepting large political donations and large gifts to get him to use his influence to do repeated interventions with the federal government on behalf of a wealthy Florida doctor.

Another couple of quick updates: We had previously learned that **Louis Klonsky** retired from his Chevron career as a geophysicist in January 2012.

The retirement life must have not been his thing because we now hear that Lou lives in Pasadena, Calif., and is an adjunct professor at Cal State. There was a Facebook post from **Tom Sawicki** (living in Jerusalem) that his younger son, Ariel, has given Tom a new grandson, Adam, who joins his sister, Zohar (3). Asked how the grandson got such a traditional name, Tom replied that the name Adam is not a common name in Israel. It only became popular in the last few years.

After 15 years as president and CEO of iSi North America, **Rick Agresta** retired last June. He tells us he is enjoying more time for recreation, travel, reading and family. The latter is especially relevant because his granddaughter, Penelope (3), moved this year (with his daughter Kate and her husband) to Rick's hometown of Darien, Conn. Rick seems to have found a lot of things to keep him busy: "I remain active as a board member of Project Redwoods, the anti-poverty social venture fund founded and run by classmates from the Stanford Business School. I also support Christo Rey, a work/study based Catholic college prep school in Harlem." He adds, "Our 40th reunion was a lot of fun and I hope to see all of our classmates at the 45th!"

On Facebook was a post from proud father **Barry Gruber** (who lives in Rochester, N.Y.). "I don't think anyone could be prouder right now (OK, I'm sure his mom is), as my fantastic son, Mitch, just won the election he has worked so hard for."

Mitch won the Democratic primary for the Rochester City Council. The general election was in November. This will be after I submit this column, so I can't report on the outcome. [Editor's note: He won!] Barry confirms, "No one, and I mean no one, loves Rochester more. It's nice to know Rochester loves him back. He'll be an amazing voice for a great city!"

Last summer **Vic Fortuno** LAW'77 (retired from being the VP and general counsel for the Legal Services Corp. in D.C., and living in Springfield, Va.) shared on Facebook a video of **Richard Briffault** that was posted on the Law School website. It was a piece done for *Business Insider,* "This is how impeachment works — and what a president would have to do to be impeached." As a professor at the Law School with a focus on the law of the political process, he was a logical choice to address this issue. Richard says in the video, "The historical sense is that impeachment basically means … serious political crimes that involve abuse of the office, abuse of power, abuse of trust. The behavior doesn't actually have to be a crime."

We'll see if this topic becomes relevant in the next few years!

While studying English at the College, **Michael Fixel** (president of Parallel Universe Theater Resources in Jacksonville, Fla.) wrote many plays. His play *Salamander Stew* won numerous awards. Thirty years later, his daughter, Juliet, produced and directed it at the Strawberry One Act Festival in NYC. He then wrote a sequel that became *Freefall Frostbite,* which was produced at the NYC International Fringe Festival in 2013. With Juliet again producing and directing, Michael produced an updated version with music, *Freefall Frostbite: A Reinvention,* at Theatre 80 St. Marks in NYC's East Village last fall. He tells us, "The Core Curriculum is definitely in there."

There you have it. Classmates retiring, reengaging and still finding time to enjoy time with their families. If you have news to share (big or small) of you or your family, pass it on. Your friends of nearly half a century want to hear from you!

1975

Randy Nichols
734 S. Linwood Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21224
rcn2day@gmail.com

We all have to be loving and cheering on Columbia football! **Ira Malin** and **Steve Jacobs** were at Robert K. Kraft Field for Homecoming. The week after, I sang *Roar, Lion, Roar* at the beginning of the team leader meeting of the project I'm currently working on at Penn. I got quite interesting reactions, as you might guess.

I've gotten mine and am having so much fun. When will you get yours? I'm talking about My First Origami Kit, imagined by **Joel Stern** (authored just doesn't seem to be the best word). It's not your grandmother's origami! Instead, you'll find firetrucks, vans, planes, cars and trains (and much more!). Joel has conducted origami workshops for kids of all ages in camps, schools, community centers and libraries and is an administrator for OrigamiUSA and Pacific Ocean Paperfolders. He chaired the 2017 Pacific Coast Origami Convention and his folded and pop-up paper creations have been exhibited in the United States, Japan and Israel.

Paul Kulig writes: "Ironically, the Summer 2017 issue of *CCT* arrived the day before I was off to NYC with my wife for a 'tourist' visit for the first time since the reunion in 2010 (can't believe it was seven years ago), so we had to make a stop at the school for nostalgia's sake. Great to see work was being done on South Field and Butler's entrance, and Tom's playing off its *Seinfeld* fame. Is that the only business left from 1975? I had to visit the bookstore to get a new Columbia T-shirt. Amazing how those chlorine droplets will find your shirt when adding it to the pool!"

I heard from **Phil Mihlmester:** "I really enjoyed your Fall 2017 update. **Jim Dolan** writing about **CJ McCloskey** brought back my own memories of the '72 strike (I was interviewed by a radio station while picketing Mathematics Hall, and 'occupied' Hamilton). I also took Roger Hilsman's course and was introduced to squash as a freshman in the same old gym where we took the memorable *au naturel* swimming test! Obviously that dovetails with you and I working for peanuts at Butler Library."

Phil and I had work-study jobs in Butler Circulation and visit "the stacks" whenever we can to get that never-to-be-forgotten smell of musty pages and stack dust.

He continues, "I also was impressed by **Fred Senatore** SEAS'77's update: two Ph.D.s (engineering and medicine no less — gut courses!)"

Phil works in global energy consulting at consultancy ICF, based in Fairfax, Va., where he oversees its energy practice. He and his wife, Linda, celebrated their 35th anniversary and they, too, are empty-nesters. Oldest son William lives nearby; he graduated from William & Mary, works in cybersecurity and was recently engaged. Younger son Adam graduated from West Virginia University, works in IT building mobile apps and lives in Denver. Phil loves the D.C. connection and always looks forward to meeting up with other alums, especially classmates.

Bob Schneider and his wife, Regina Mullahy BC'75, are the proud grandparents of their first grandson, Thomas Joseph Schneider. Tommy is the son of John Schneider '07 and his wife, Stephanie Pahler BC'06. *Marquis Who's Who* recently named Bob a Lifetime Achiever. Bob has been special counsel for Cuddy & Feder since 1997. Prior to his current role, he was an associate, and eventually senior associate attorney, for Hawkins, Delafield & Wood.

Several classmates spent late summer and early fall traveling. **Bob Sclafani** hiked the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu and elsewhere, enjoying Incan and Peruvian culture, food and beer along the way. **Fernando Castro** has been touring Mexico, visiting cultural attractions and performances. **Peter Garza-Zavaleta** has returned to Spain for the winter, doing a lot of touring around the country. All seemed to eat and drink well in their travels. I recently spent a week cruising the Italian and French Rivieras on the *Royal Clipper*, the largest five-masted sailing ship afloat today.

1976

Ken Howitt
1114 Hudson St., Apt. 8
Hoboken, N.J. 07030
kenhowitt76@gmail.com

So, another column, but this time I have so much information that I don't have to mention that Linda and **Dennis Goodrich** traveled from Syracuse to Poland for a brief vacation. Not sure who watched their pup, Mika, but with a name like that she could definitely fend for herself.

I do seem to get a number of updates from the regulars. **Terry Corrigan** and **Tom Motley** got together for 72 holes of golf in Pinehurst, N.C. According to Terry, they were tied at the end of the 72nd hole, and Tom did not have time for a playoff. A photo of them got lots of comments from me, **Nick De Monico** and Gwyneth Murphy BC'76; we all agree that Tom wins best dressed, and Terry claimed Mr. Congeniality!

I sat with Nick and his wife, Lee, at the Yale Bowl when Columbia played Yale last fall. Nick is officially retired and keeping up with their three children. I hope he will send an update for the next issue. I also spotted **Bryan Alix** enjoying the sunny day. The game did not have a good outcome, but the Lions had

a winning season, were fun and interesting to watch, and have a great group of sophomores and first-years that should keep the program at the top of the Ivy League for the next few years.

Rich Feldman was also at the Yale game and sat with me at Homecoming two weeks before, which was an overtime win against Penn at Robert K. Kraft Field. After the game, Rich emailed me his update: "Living in Chappaqua with my wife, Michele. Two of our three sons are living in NYC, with our oldest having opened up a restaurant, Hanoi House, on the Lower East Side. Enjoying the practice of law and biking as often and as far as time allows. Greatly enjoyed the last reunion and looking forward to the next."

On the way back from New Haven, there was a stop at Debbie and **Mike Yeager**'s home in Westport, Conn. Mike is recovering from back surgery, but still looks like he could contribute to the Lions defensive line effort. We watched the end of the Penn State-Ohio State game and enjoyed some Westport pizza (not quite up to V&T standards).

Also at Homecoming were **Jon Margolis** and **Jim Bruno.** Jim filed this report from his vantage point at the field: "It was a great win for the football team at Homecoming! My wife, Donna, said it was the most exciting Columbia football game she ever saw (obviously forgetting when we played to a scoreless tie against Bucknell in Coach Navarro's final season). It was good to see many football and baseball teammates from various years, as well as **David Luther, Donald Goldblatt** and, of course, **Ken Howitt.** Notably missing was **Jim Berquist,** who was away surveying his vast real estate holdings in the Caribbean."

My predecessor as CC'76 class correspondent, **Clyde Moneyhun,** filed this update: "After six or seven years of translating Catalan poetry and having poems published here and there in literary magazines, I've published my first book of translations by Minorcan poet Ponç Pons, *Salt* (or *Salobre* in Catalan). The British publisher is Francis Boutle and you can find the book on its website — a bargain at £9.99! If you cruise the internet you'll also find my translations of Ramon Llull (the medieval father of Catalan literature — Chaucer, Shakespeare and Milton rolled into one) as well as contemporary poets Maria-Mercè Marçal and Dolors Miquel. Why Catalan? It was a language in my mother's family but died out in my grandmother's generation. In view of recent events in Catalonia, I'm feeling especially devoted to the language of my ancestors."

Vinnie Briccetti checked in about a visit to the Pacific Northwest: "Just finished the last *CCT* and thought I'd let you know that my wife, Grace, and I recently spent some time in the Pacific Northwest, including a spectacular Fourth of July with Marilynn and **Dan Gottlieb.** Seems appropriate, as Dan and I were, after all, members of the 'Bicentennial Class.' See the nearby picture of us on the back porch of the Gottliebs' beautiful home in Bainbridge Island, Wash."

And now a note about a new feature in Class Notes. If you have a picture with at least one other Columbia College alum, the editors can include it. I am happy to write the captions, but classmates know what that means! Better to submit both photos and captions via *CCT*'s photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Thanks to Terry and Vinnie for contributing our first pictures.



Vinnie Briccetti '76, Marilynn Gottlieb, Dan Gottlieb '76 and Grace Briccetti celebrated July 4 at the Gottliebs' home on Bainbridge Island, Wash.

Thank you also for your participation in Columbia Giving Day. Our class did very well, and if you didn't contribute to the Columbia College Fund, you will hear from me again (and again, and again) in the next few months (and years).

Keep updating me, and I hope to see many of you at a basketball game or two at Levien Gymnasium. Let me know if you are coming to NYC, and we can grab lunch as well.

1977

David Gorman
111 Regal Dr.
DeKalb, IL 60115
dgorman@niu.edu

Last June I attended our 40th reunion, and I need to debrief on that. If change is a theme in the remarks that follow, keep in mind that there is no change without some continuity as well.

The reunion began on a Thursday with a joint reception with the Barnard Class of '77 in a building not far from Times Square. On my way there, as I crossed 42nd and Broadway (now a pedestrian mall!), I could hardly help comparing the scene with my first sight of the area in Spring 1974. That grungefest is now the setting for a TV series with James Franco — in other words, the setting for a historical costume drama, like Gettysburg or Salem during the witch trials. Except that I was *there* (OK, briefly — don't get the wrong idea). But I digress.

The reception was attended by such luminaries as **Bill Dorsey, Bill Gray** (our host), **John Hallacy, John Lukomnik, Jim Mullin, Brent Rosenthal, Mike Sherman** and **Walter Simpson.** Reunions a few decades out have a sort of dreamlike quality. I rode up 23 flights in an elevator with Barnard class president Mary Ann Lofrumento BC'77: Neither of us recognized the other. And yet it was great to reconnect with her, as eventually I did, along with other BC'77 alumnae.

Attendance, at this and other reunion events, was very good. People came from all over to be there (New Mexico, Texas, and even — ahem — Illinois). A task I set for myself was to find out who had traveled the farthest,



Two CC'76ers played 72 holes of golf at Pinehurst: Terry Corrigan (left) and Tom Motley.

but this turned out to be no contest: One of the first people I spoke to was **Jeff MacFarland,** who had dropped in from Hanoi. Don't tell me that we don't have enthusiastic classmates.

On Friday, a dinner was held at a restaurant on LaSalle Street. I'd barely heard of such a street, and early in the day I strolled uptown to find it and was amazed to realize that it was West 124th Street. Forty or so years ago, the very idea of going north of, say, Riverside Church, for a meal was next to inconceivable. But this whole area is the new Columbia neighborhood, as the University expands in that direction. At the dinner, in addition to many classmates I'd encountered on Thursday, I was pleased to see **Efrain Agosto, Dan Kottke, Charlee Myers, Dan Sang, Costantino Suriano** and **George Whipple.**

Of course there were also daytime events for alums throughout the weekend. In general you get your money's worth for attending. Aside from some very good talks and tours, this reunion gave me a much better sense than I'd had about what's going on with both the College and the University, and the reasons why things have changed since we graduated — in some cases very much. Speaking of change, the neighborhood has transformed east, west, south and north (though I am never going to get used to those wide-open campus gates on West 120th Street). I'm glad that through the years, as I've mentioned in other columns, I've come back to the area; for someone who hadn't been there since 1977, it would be like landing on Mars.

The main reunion event was the class dinner on Saturday in Alfred Lerner Hall, which stands in the place of dear, seedy, old Ferris Booth Hall, and where it was good to see **Russ Behrman.** We were lucky to have

Barry Bergdoll as our speaker. An architectural historian at Columbia, he provided a fascinating history of how the Morningside campus came to be the way it is (long story short — what ended up getting built differs entirely from what was envisioned). More than that, Barry shared with us his experience as someone who has lived on the upper-Upper West Side for most of the time since we graduated. I was astonished to learn that he commutes to work by walking through Morningside Park — *through* it. You might feel that way also, if you remembered going to a class meeting (this would be about junior year) that a professor held in her apartment on Morningside Drive, when, at some point, we noticed smoke rising across the street. Peering out her window, our host announced, "Apparently someone has set the playground on fire." It was the 1970s; we went on with the class.

Apologies if I left anyone left out of this all too brief and belated account, or misplaced them (as I'm sure that I did). Look for follow up in future columns and send your news to dgorman@niu.edu.

1978

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776
Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Matthew Nemerson
35 Huntington St.
New Haven, CT 06511
matthewnemerson@gmail.com

The sprint to the 40th is under way — special thanks to the all-star team of '78ers who are planning a great event: **Paul McCormick, Joseph Greenaway, Robert Blank, Thomas Bisdale, Charles Callan, Jeffrey Canfield, Tom Mariam, Wilson Ko, Mark Silverschotz, Alex Demac, Bruce Steinberg** (in London), **Nicholas Serwer** (in Singapore), **John Slosar** (in Hong Kong) and **Byron Moger.** I will be helping as well. Thanks to everyone! Please give money or time when one of these classmates calls. Our goal is to raise about $400,000 and have 75 folks attend the reunion. We can do it.

Don Guttenplan is back in the United States after a time in London; he lives in Guilford, Vt., where my dad once had a little winter cottage between wives in the 1970s. Don writes, "Last July 8, **Jeff Klein** was among a group of CC'78 members who made the journey from the concrete canyons of Manhattan to the sunny uplands of southern Vermont to celebrate my 60th birthday. Joining Jeff were his fellow 8 Carman denizens **Larry Friedman** and **Sid Holt,** along with my fellow 13 Carmanite **Carl Strehlke,** and the baby of the group, Steve Ackerman '79. Tom Mellins '79 and **Joel Sanders** — with a crucial assist from Nanci Fink Levine — completed the contingent of Columbia contemporaries in attendance. In the nearby photo Steve and I are wearing matching legacy hats — a fitting choice, as we are also both Columbia parents."

Don, who has long written for *The Nation,* remembered college days: "When we arrived in New York in Fall 1974, garbage was piled high in the streets and the city was all but bankrupt. I remember going downtown with my best friend, Don Share (who later transferred to Brown, and now edits *Poetry* magazine), to see the music promoter George Klein to try to persuade him to hold a benefit concert, along the lines of the Concert for Bangladesh, to save the city. Our brilliant idea was to reunify The Beatles for the occasion. Klein was incredibly patient, hearing us out and then sending us away with a non-committal 'Let's stay in touch.' Which somehow, weighed down by the demands of CC and Humanities — and the infinite, and at the time remarkably inexpensive, temptations of the fleshpots of Gotham — we never managed to do. I also remember, in Summer 1976, living on a food budget of $4 a day to save money — and never really feeling like I was going hungry. As for the Ivy League stuff, apart from **Jeff Klein**, whose duties at WKCR obliged him to attend, I don't think any of my friends went to a single football game. After I graduated I did go to a Homecoming — the last game at the old Baker Field, where we were invited to kick off the demolition by hand. I still have the green numbered bench I took home on the subway that day — now, with added feet, it sits by the fire in Vermont."



KEN HOWITT '76

Several former WKCR Sports Department staff members reunited at the Yale Bowl. Left to right: Marion Nemerson BC'77, Matt Nemerson '78, Jim Miller '70, Tom Mariam '78, Russ Behrman '77, and Marilyn and Kevin DeMarrais '64.

Tim Riedle, who has left the United States, writes, "I am now retired in Abruzzo, Italy, having recently moved into a house we built with a grand view of the Gran Sasso peaks. I feel fortunate to be in this remote part of Italy and removed from current politics in the U.S. I receive little U.S. mail and I'm not ashamed to say that the Columbia alumni magazines are a highlight of my trips down the hill to the mailbox. It may be tempting to consider that a sad commentary on a pathetic, boring life, but let's resist it; it's not even close to the truth. Really, it's just a testament to how good a place Columbia is and how good those magazines have become."

I asked each of you for this edition of *CCT* to tell us how Columbia's rise to prominence as number 2 on the *Wall Street Journal* list of top 500 American colleges compares to moments in your memory of your time as an undergraduate in the less rarified 1970s. Tim added this evocative remembrance, "I remember a reading from Allen Ginsberg '48 in The West End, lightly attended by Columbia students, but still happening, and still '*A Happening*' as far as I was concerned. That was a good example of the fantastic opportunities in NYC for an Ivy League student, though because so many Columbia students were from the area they might have been a bit blasé about it. Being from California, I was stoked!"

Steven Horowitz SEAS'81 is now in Ra'anana, Israel: "I made *Aliyah* to Israel in 2009 with my family and work as a patent attorney here — I appreciate having received the scientific portion of my training in the pre-med classes of the College and in the master's program at Columbia Engineering."

In Israel for some time, **Gary Pickholz** writes, "I had a uniquely Class of 1978 wedding in September at the seaside just north of Tel Aviv. **Carl Sherer** served as a witness and signatory on my ketuba, and by sheer coincidence the pen used was from **Jeffrey Moerdler**'s law offices. Enjoyed my honeymoon."

Gary reflects, "I always thought of 'Columbia of Our Day' as improperly insular, and have been gratified to play a small part in its embracing a far more global presence, from the Global Centers to the more than doubling of overseas students. The new Columbia Global Policy Initiative is a wonderful step forward for all of us — alumni, faculty and students."

Joseph M. Schachner SEAS'79 works for Teledyne LeCroy and was recently back on campus: "I was at the C.U.C.C. Engineering Career Fair recently, on behalf of my employer. We have been there several times, we find the quality of the candidates to be very good."

As for Columbia's new might, "This too shall pass!" He opines on the "real" Columbia of memory: "I remember Professor Omar Wing telling us to get his book on circuit theory, which turned out to be out of print!"

Chuck Callan, of Grandview-on-Hudson, works for Broadridge (which provides data to the financial services industry). Chuck had an interesting perspective on the old Columbia: "In the 1970s, NYC, and therefore,

Columbia, had a middle class that Columbia was able to educate."

David Margules, publisher of *Spectator* back in the day, has fond memories of "late night dining at Duke's." He is now a corporate lawyer at Ballard Spahr in Wilmington, Del., tells us that he has "nothing exciting to report. I continue to practice law. My four sons continue to age (as do I). The world turns! I will always remember Columbia as a little school in a sleepy town. Global domination frightens me."

James Hill works for the U.S. Treasury in New York and is looking forward to seeing everyone at reunion. He remembers a college exploit that probably would not be allowed today: "We scaled up onto the dome of Low Library at night, discussed architecture, beer, security and other lofty subjects."

Rob Blank notes that he "always knew Columbia was great," so the current recognition does not come as a surprise. Rob is a professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Francis Collini is a doctor of plastic surgery in Shavertown, Pa. His daughter is expecting his first grandchild and his son recently became engaged. "I still talk to my college roommate, **Jamie Morhaim,** several times a week and we plan to get together in New York during the holidays."

Russ Frazier is at CERDEC, developing communications, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance technologies for the "networked" soldier at the Aberdeen PG in Maryland. He says he is "reading and investigating organic chemistry."

A number of us attended Columbia football games this fall, and I saw classmates such as **Tom Mariam** at Homecoming and in New Haven. While our 6–0 start to the season did not hold, it has still been a great run this year for the team and a good opportunity to get together with friends from many classes.

Kick off the year by sending your news to matthewnemerson@gmail.com. It's an easy resolution to cross off the list.

Russ Frazier '78 develops communications, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance technologies for the "networked" soldier.

1979

Robert Klapper
8737 Beverly Blvd., Ste 303
Los Angeles, CA 90048
robertklappermd@aol.com

Robert C. Klapper: "This issue's Columbia thought comes right out of the dashboard of the car that you are driving.

"As the world we live in now becomes completely unrecognizable compared to the life we lived in 1975–79 ('our shared Columbia experience' and the purpose of this column), the George Jetson mobile that gets you to and from work most likely has satellite radio, and Channel 7 on mine and yours is devoted to the '70s.

"My memory does not come strictly from the words that appear on the digital screen, but from the four numbers that accompany each of the songs played. Because these four numerals represent the year the song was released. For all those millennials that have come after us, this is an 'oldies' station, but for you and me, fellow '79ers, when the Bee Gees 'Jive Talkin'' is suddenly playing, the 1975 that pops up next to the name of the song on my LED dashboard makes me remember hearing it for the first time. I was probably jaywalking across Broadway, from Ta-Kome deli. (Isn't it special that an establishment across the street from Columbia University intentionally butchered two simple words?! This is why I felt smart at freshman orientation, because I felt at least I could spell better than the idiots across the street.)

"Sometimes the musical memory has the opposite effect because the song and the date of what I'm listening to unfortunately is Helen Reddy singing 'Angie Baby,' which I have hated since 1975.

"Most recently, driving to work a Columbia flashback occurred. The '70s on 7 channel began to play Harry Chapin's 1974 'Cat's in the Cradle.' This song is special to me on so many levels, but it's particularly important to me because the whole idea of even going to Columbia came from my good friend Norman Steinberg '78, who was a guest in the Catskills mountain hotel I worked at as a 16-year-old (enough stories to fill 100 of these columns). He was proudly wearing a Columbia T-shirt sitting at the pool where I was working. Just imagine the movie *Dirty Dancing* and I'm Patrick Swayze and Steinberg is Jennifer Grey (just kidding, Norm). Norman and I have remained the closest of friends for more than 40 years.

"You see, Harry Chapin was his favorite artist. One night he asked me while we were both living in Hartley Hall if I wanted to go with him to see Harry at a concert in Central Park. I can still hear the song and see the trees of the park as clear as day. It was one of the most memorable evenings during my four years at the College.

"This futuristic song-generating device in our dashboard — because it delineates the year of the tune — has this incredible ability to take us on an audio magic carpet ride, back to our days at the College. What used to be our radio is now a time machine. Roar, Lion, Roar!"

1980

Michael C. Brown
London Terrace Towers
410 W. 24th St., Apt. 18F
New York, NY 10011
mcbcu80@yahoo.com

We had a tremendous fall season, and I congratulate the football team for making us all proud. Homecoming 2017 will go down in the annals of history as one of the greatest games played in modern times, and I cannot remember a time when alums young and old stormed the field! Glad to see the Class of '80 in attendance.

I received a nice note from **Howard Leib:** "I moved to Ithaca, N.Y., about eight years ago (after a lifetime in NYC) with my wife, Marcie, who is native to the area and has a massage studio here. Ithaca is a beautiful small city, with theater, independent film and farmers markets. I am on the board of our local arts cinema and am pro bono counsel for one of our theater companies. I also have my own radio show on our community station, WRFI.

"Since moving here, I have continued my entertainment and intellectual law practice. The joy of modern technology allows me to stay in touch with clients, literally all over the world, without being tied to being in the big city. In addition to my law practice, I have taught various higher education courses at several institutions for decades. Since moving to Ithaca, I have found the joy of teaching online for schools such as NYU, National Paralegal College and Kaplan University. Most recently, however, I have also been getting physically back into the classroom. I have taught media law at Syracuse University's S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications and trademark law at Syracuse's School of Law. My big new news, however, is that as of the past Fall semester, I am teaching entertainment law at Cornell Law School. My parents are very proud that their son is an Ivy League law professor. I'm pretty proud, too."

All my best for a happy and healthy New Year, and I look forward to seeing you at a basketball game this winter. Drop me a line at mcbcu80@yahoo.com.

1981

Kevin Fay
8300 Private Ln.
Annadale, VA 22003
kfay0516@gmail.com

My inbox was empty. I have nothing to report to fellow graduates and other alumni. Clearly, the approach I've taken is not working. When faced with problems, I take our dog out for long walks and this helps me find solutions (inside joke; we own a Dachshund, and at most it's 300 ft. from the front porch, then back home), but alas. Send me your plans for 2018 or report on your favorite 2017 events: kfay0516@gmail.com!

1982

Andrew Weisman
81 S. Garfield St.
Denver, CO 80209
weisman@comcast.net

Greetings, gentlemen. As I put digits to keyboard I feel the despair of still being subject to a never-ending anti-civics

lesson. To paraphrase an ad I once saw on the subway, "¡Es la hora Mueller!"

I also despair that no one checked in this quarter. I have a suggestion: If you don't wish to share any intimate details of your private life, how about just checking in to challenge me for having voted for the Green Party? It will only take a moment. You'll be glad you did it!

1983

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776

Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Roy Pomerantz
Babyking/Petking
182-20 Liberty Ave.
Jamaica, NY 11412
bkroy@msn.com

Homecoming 2017. Students from the Penn marching band are packing up their instruments and boarding the bus. I hear one of them remark incredulously, "Trump is President and Columbia is 5–0." My 9-year-old, Ricky, says to me, "It must be very depressing for them to drive for hours and then go home after such a tough loss." Flashback. 1980. As the juggler for the marching band, I vividly remember traveling on the bus home after so many tough losses. There was pandemonium at Baker Field after Columbia's 34–31 Homecoming win. Absolute joy following so many heartbreaking seasons. The fans ran onto the field and danced, sang and partied with the victorious football players for more than 30 minutes.

Eric Epstein and his wife, Michele Shapiro BC'85, JRN'92, were in attendance. Eric's father, William Epstein '55, SEAS'56, is also a loyal alumnus. **Andy Gershon** rode his bike to Robert K. Kraft Field from his apartment on West 96th Street. Andy and I debated whether Coach Jim Engles rotated the players too aggressively (limiting the playing time of star players like Luke Petrasek '17) during Engles' first season as Columbia's basketball coach. Basketball star Isaac Cohen '16 was at Homecoming and we discussed whether Petrasek would make the final roster for the Charlotte Hornets (he was later assigned to Charlotte's G League). I also greeted shirtless Columbia basketball star Nate Hickman '18 during the victory celebration. I shook hands with the elated former running back and John Jay Award recipient Joseph Cabrera '82. Sharon Gerstman Chapman BC'83 and **Kevin Chapman** celebrated with their son Ross '18, who plays the trombone in the marching band. **Steve Coleman** and his wife, Laura, sat behind me at the game; their daughters are Sarah '15 and Madeleine '20.

I spotted **Steve Greenfield** getting signatures for the "Save Orgo Night" petition. Steve is a director of the Columbia University Band Alumni Association. CUBBAA has been working with the marching band in an effort to preserve Orgo Night, the popular exam-time event that began in 1975. Alumni support has been key to defending the traditional location of the stress-busting performance, which last year was moved from its longtime home in Butler Library.

David Rubel and his wife, Julia, proudly celebrated the win with their daughter, Abigail '19. Abigail is following in David's footsteps as a member of the marching band (flute) and an English major. David and Julia's son, Quentin, was accepted to CC last year but deferred so that he could take a gap year with AmeriCorps. Right now he is in Key West helping with hurricane relief. Julia and David are celebrating their newly empty nest with a trip to Montana to visit friends. David says, "We really like this empty-nest thing!" He also notes, "**Ron Blum** and his family came to visit in the spring as his son, Eric, was making the rounds of early nearby colleges. Ron is still a writer for AP. He was in Trinidad covering the United States soccer team's embarrassing loss in the World Cup qualifier."

Dennis Klainberg '84 continued his annual tradition of playing his trumpet with the marching band during Homecoming. Dennis was thrilled that Steve Greenfield '82 was playing his saxophone with the band as well. It was the first time Dennis had seen Steve in 35 years. Steve and Michael Waldman '82 (speechwriter for President Clinton) lived next to me my first year on 14 Jay. I have fond memories of Steve's very eclectic taste in music, including Billy Joel (long before he became the success he is now), Skafish, Sinatra, Springsteen and The Beatles.

Ed Joyce reached me by FaceTime while I was celebrating on the field. Ed and Dave Filosa '82 were following the game online during the wedding of a Columbia teammate/classmate's daughter in France. Ed joins **Gerrard Bushell, Steve Coleman** (VP of alumni engagement) and me as a member of the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors. The CCAA was founded in 1825 and has a rich history of engagement, leadership and influence at CC. I am on the Alumni Representative Committee committee and strongly encourage classmates to sign up to conduct interviews this year. I sat under the pre-game Homecoming tent with David Levin '64, SEAS'68. David is friends with ob/gyn **Peter Simonson** and his wife, Jane.

Steve Jacobs '75 sent a Wikipedia entry on Columbia's 1934 Rose Bowl game and noted, "I remember my father, Martin Jacobs (Class of 1925, LAW'27), talking about this."

Tom Vinciguerra '85, JRN'86, GSAS'90 published an article in *The New York Times* on October 24 titled, "Columbia Football Keeps Winning. Some Fans Aren't Happy About It." From the article: "'My feelings as an alumnus are very different from when I was a student,' said **Stephen Holtje.** When he was in the university's marching band, he said, 'Being a rabid sports fan was not really hip. I remember taking great delight in Columbia's perfection of the forward fumble.' Today, Mr. Holtje is manager of the record label ESP-Disk and has a different slant. 'I no longer need to be hip and ironic,' he said. 'When they're losing, it means nothing and I don't notice. But when they win, it's like this amazing blessing out of nowhere.' Mr. Holtje dismissed any notions that Columbia's current football prowess might overshadow the university's emphasis on academics. 'It's sufficiently obvious that we will not be Ohio State,' he said, 'so we don't have to worry — even if we have an undefeated season.'"

Carl Faller: "It is not every day while still reading the paper edition of *The New York Times* I am brought to a quick smile. Great to see a photo of **Steve Holtje,** my Carman Hall freshman roommate, alive and well as evidenced by the photo and backed up by a thoughtful quotation. All in the front section no less, in an article about a winning Columbia football team. As referenced in the article and evidenced by my now more than 15 years in Columbus, Ohio (in the home of The Ohio State University), rest assured Columbia should have no fears of athletics overshadowing academics. Exciting year for the household as my daughter, Carolyn, is in her junior year at Fordham and my twin sons, Bob and John, are high school seniors contemplating their futures."

Jets linebacker Josh Martin '14 was honored during the Homecoming game along with Robert K. Kraft '63. From an October 28 *New York Post* article: "Jets linebacker Josh Martin is having the most productive year of his professional career, while his alma mater Columbia is off to its first 6–0 start since 1996. Martin, who plays both special teams and defense and had an impressive sack last week, has done his best to follow the Lions' historic season. He attended



David Rubel '83 (middle) and Roy Pomerantz '83 met up at the Homecoming 2017 game with their families.

their homecoming game — a 34–31 overtime victory over former Ivy League champion Penn — two weeks ago. … But Martin — the only player from Columbia currently on an NFL roster — has helped contribute to the program's rise, just by making it as far as he has. 'When you have guys in the league, I like to think that helps the program,' he said. 'It's fun to be a part of [the turnaround].' Martin is hopeful his former squad will finish the job they started. 'Everyone knows that this isn't Columbia as they've known it in the past,' he said."

Wayne Allyn Root: "My TV show is a huge hit. My radio show is the fastest growing in America … from one station to 36 in five months! And my oldest son, Hudson, is applying to CC in December, along with Harvard, Stanford and USC. Kid is a stud lacrosse player with great grades and SAT scores."

On September 17, I attended the Fifth Annual Les Nelkin [SEAS'87] Pediatric Cancer Survivor Day. Ruth and Harold Nelkin have been great friends and supporters of the division of hematology/oncology and stem cell transplantation at Cohen Children's Medical Center. They honor the memory of their son, Les, through their support of this wonderful event for all cancer survivors. Les lost his battle to Wilms Tumor at 37 in 2001. The Nelkins' generosity is also recognized through the Les Nelkin Memorial Pediatric Oncology Laboratory at the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research. Thanks to generous supporters, the Survivors Facing Forward at Cohen Children's Medical Center can continue to thrive and meet the needs of the growing amount of pediatric cancer survivors. To learn more about this program, visit bit.ly/CCMCSurvivors.

Jon Ross sent a photo from South America in front of the Universidad Columbia Del Paraguay.

Our 35th reunion will be Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2. Members of the Reunion Committee are **Ed Joyce** (co-chair), **Roy Pomerantz** (co-chair), **George Wilson** (co-chair), **Gerrard Bushell** (co-chair), **Steve Coleman** (co-chair), **Gary McCready**, **Kevin Chapman**, **Barry Rashkover, David Hershey-Webb, Eric Epstein, Mark Momjian, Don Lewis, David Einhorn** and **John Bonomi.**

The following classmates have children in the Class of 2021: **Basil Michaels** (Theodore Michaels) and **George Fryer** (Christopher Fryer, combined College and Engineering).

The *New York Post* ran a story on love letters **Barack Obama** wrote while he was at CC: "A young Barack Obama questioned his place in the world and his racial identity, agonized over whether he'd make enough money as a community organizer and lamented his incompatibility with his ex-girlfriend, in 30 pages of letters he wrote to her that are now being archived by Emory University in Atlanta. … 'My ideas aren't as crystallized as they were while in school, but they have an immediacy and weight that may be more useful if and when I'm less observer and more participant,' Obama wrote in 1984 to [Alexandra] McNear, who was a student at Occidental College in L.A., which Obama attended before transferring to Columbia. The letters span 1982 to 1984."

Jonathan Green is running for Cook County Illinois Judge. Contact terri@jonathan clarkgreen.com.

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy 2018. Please join our Reunion Committee!

1984

Dennis Klainberg
Berklay Cargo Worldwide
14 Bond St., Ste 233
Great Neck, NY 11021
dennis@berklay.com

At the time of this submission, Columbia football triumphed over Dartmouth just a week after a spectacular overtime win over Penn at Homecoming. With a 6–0 record, your classmates were apparently so stunned that radio silence ensued. Remember, gang, when you read Class Notes and have news, email me immediately so that you'll be included in the next column. Please!

Luckily, you can all live vicariously through my experience at Homecoming, where I once again marched with the Marching Band and bumped into **Arthur Kohn,** who attended a Columbia College Alumni Association event before kickoff. I was thrilled to reunite with fellow bandmates Steve Greenfield '82 (after 30 years!), Steven Greenfield '83 and Roy Pomerantz '83. I was most honored to see former *CCT* editor-in-chief Alex Sachare '71, super alumnus Ira Malin '75 and old friend, neighbor and former Marching Band member Robert Waldbaum '58. What a day and what a season!



Former drum major Steve Greenfield '82 (middle) and former band manager Dennis Klainberg '84 at Homecoming 2017 before taking the field.

In other news, **Albert Faro** is doing good and doing well. "We have been very fortunate over the past year or so," he writes. "In a period of a month last year we celebrated our daughter's bat mitzvah, sold a home, bought a home, moved cities and started a new job! I am now back on the East Coast, having traded my position in academic medicine as professor of pediatrics at Washington University in St. Louis (where I was a pediatric pulmonologist) to come to Bethesda, Md., and work for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as senior director of clinical affairs. The foundation is a nonprofit working to find a cure for CF while improving the lives of people with CF today.

"I am leading initiatives in advanced lung disease, including lung transplantation and palliative care, and quality improvement efforts across the entire national care center network that we support. This is a dream come true for me. The impact a physician can have in a clinic or hospital with a patient and family is magical, but to work at the CF Foundation, where decisions and programs can impact more than 30,000 people nationally and possibly 70,000 globally, is truly a privilege.

"It has been a fantastic move and although we loved living in St. Louis the past 11 years, it is great to be back on the East Coast. We have already visited the major sites in D.C. and Baltimore, catching ballgames at both Camden Yards and Nationals Park. My daughter, who was at first adamantly opposed to the move, loves it here and was excited to start high school this year."

With special thanks to a fellow band alumni "bored" member who wishes to remain nameless (he's the diffident type), I was forwarded the following statement from **Kurt Roeloffs**, one of the two alumni representatives to the University Senate: "I recently stepped down from the role of chief investment officer of RREEF, Deutsche Bank's $65 billion alternative investment management division in order to found Protean Co., a venture capital firm focused on the application of transformative and sustainable technologies in the built environment. Earlier in my career at Deutsche Bank, I was the CEO of RREEF Asia Pacific, regional head of RREEF opportunistic investments and a managing director of Bankers Trust's real estate investment banking group. I have been a lecturer at many graduate business schools, including Columbia, Penn, NYU and Harvard. I am a member of Congress for the New Urbanism and the Urban Land Institute. I am chair of the African Dream Academy Foundation, which established and supports a model school educating 300 students in Liberia, West Africa; a trustee of Auburn Theological Seminary, which seeks and trains moral leaders across religious communities; and trustee of the Japan ICU Foundation, which supports peace, interfaith and gender studies at the Inter-

national Christian University of Japan. I earned an M.B.A. from the Wharton School in 1988. I live in Manhattan with my wife, Shyanne, and our four children.

"The education I received at Columbia, especially the Core Curriculum, was seminal to my success in life. I cannot imagine not supporting Columbia's ability to do that for present and future students."

Email your news now! Roar, Lion, Roar!

1985

Jon White
16 South Ct.
Port Washington, NY 11050
jw@whitecoffee.com

Unfortunately, I missed all of the Homecoming festivities — of all the years — where our football team won a thriller in overtime and is guaranteed to have its first winning season in more than 20 years. Our class was most ably represented by, among others, **Tom Scotti** and **Paul Getzels.** Tom reconnected with Glee Club/Bacchantae founder Ari Brose BC'84. Tom is executive director at Hilco Global, an independent financial services company that provides valuation, monetization and advisory services for tangible and intangible assets. Paul continues his multi-faceted career including legal work, choral singing and voiceover talent. He was spotted wearing the commemorative cap that was provided in 1984 (when yours truly made thousands of giveaway caps via the Student Council) to celebrate the reopening of Baker Field and Lawrence A. Wien stadium.

Since our Columbia days overlapped with "nearby" classes, please feel free to include updates whenever you run into those folks as well. I've seen many of those good friends from the mid-'80s. There are even Columbia folks in places like NYU, where Professor Eddy Friedfeld '83 led a class on the various iterations of Detective Marlowe in the movies, with Eddy's brother Leon Friedfeld '88 joining me. I also attended a Columbia alumni dinner, where I enjoyed reconnecting with many alums of nearby classes, including David Lebowitz '86, Dennis Klainberg '84, Paul Petrylak SEAS'83, Dave Kansas '90 and Tom Meriam '78. The featured speaker was none other than former Dean of Students Roger Lehecka '67, who entertained the group with stories of his 50 years as an alum. Dean Lehecka looks just like he did when we were back on the Quad.

Several of our classmates and their companies have been featured in the press during the last few months. **Tom Vinciguerra** JRN'86, GSAS'90 has been busy with his published writings during this year. Last summer he penned a column in *Newsday* about the heightened level of enthusiasm in the current political climate, specifically citing a comment from someone (whom I believe I know well) in my community (Port Washington) in the process. I hope you saw his terrific article in *CCT*'s Fall 2017 issue ("Roar, Lion, Roar") regarding the history of the Columbia "C" on the Harlem River, and an article in late October in *The New York Times,* "Columbia Football Keeps Winning. Some Fans Aren't Happy About It." I would have thought that an undefeated 6–0 start would have made everyone roar.

My Kingsmen musical director, **David Zapolsky,** was featured last summer in *Corporate Counsel* magazine. David is SVP, general counsel and secretary of Amazon, and heads the legal department, which consists of more than 800 people, including more than 400 attorneys with offices in 15 countries.

And for you coffee fans out there, White Coffee Corp., my Long Island City coffee importer and roaster, was recognized as one of the top licensees in the world by *License! Global Magazine*, the premier publication in the licensing industry. The August 2017 issue identified White Coffee Corp. as a leading licensee of beverage and food categories, highlighting just two other entries in that category, among 150 licensees globally.

As always, there are moments of happiness and sadness to report. In case you missed "Alumni Sons and Daughters" in the Fall 2017 issue, congrats to a bunch of '85ers who have proudly added the "P" moniker to their Columbia credentials: **David Avigan, Judah Cohen** (who gets a double "well done" for having two sons in the Class of 2021), **Ryutaro Hirose** and **John Phelan.** And we extend condolences to **Mark Rothman** on the loss of his father, Louis Rothman '57.

A reminder to send me photos from when you get together with classmates (the only requirements are that photos need to be high-resolution and have at least two College alumni in them); my column is much enhanced when we add some great pictures — and it's great to put faces to names even 30-plus years later! In addition, *CCT* launched a "Just Married!" section to call extra attention to wedding photos, so if any of you are getting married, please send in a photo from the celebration. [Editor's note: Both kinds of photos, and caption info, can be submitted directly to *CCT* via an easy-to-use webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.]

Finally, for those looking for another non-monetary way to serve alma mater, a great new program that you should look into is the Odyssey Mentoring Program (college.columbia.edu/alumni/odyssey-mentoring). The program connects Columbia College students and young alumni with experienced alumni like us who make themselves available to answer questions, meet for coffee or offer career and life advice that can help a young person on their way forward. I've already signed up and encourage you to do the same — and you can specify the quantity/quality of input (if you just want to take phone calls/emails for a limited period, that is perfectly fine — or you can expand and meet on an ongoing basis). It is a wonderful program to help students and young alumni who have real-world questions and want common-sense assistance.

Hope everyone had a happy holiday season, and all the best for a healthy and peaceful 2018. Don't forget to write.

David Zapolsky '85, SVP, general counsel and secretary of Amazon, was featured last summer in Corporate Counsel *magazine.*

1986

Everett Weinberger
50 W. 70th St., Apt. 3B
New York, NY 10023
everett6@gmail.com

I was listening to a *This American Life* podcast and the host, Ira Glass, devoted the entire show to **David Rakoff** upon the fifth anniversary of his death from cancer on August 9, 2012. While it's sad that David died so young, he would be proud to know that he lives on through his writing and the performances he gave on radio and TV. I didn't know that David was such a fixture on *This American Life*, nor that he was good friends with David Sedaris and Glass. I wish I had known David while at Columbia and in the years following graduation.

Our class is well represented in the list of alumni sons and daughters admitted to the Class of 2021. Congrats to the following: **Jeff Arle** and son Chad; **Adam Cohen** and son Josiah; **Peter Dilorio** and daughter Sophia; **Nino Dobrovic** and son Carl; **Michael Goldfischer** and son Jared; **Ken Stuzin** and daughter Devon; and **Andrew Volk** and son Malcolm. Congrats also to **Michael Gottdenker** on the transfer of daughter Eliana to the Class of 2020.

I bet you didn't know that Wikipedia had an entry "List of Columbia College people," which is a list of notable graduates and former College students. Congratulations to the 12 members of CC'86 who made that list! Scholars: **Alexander Arguelles,** American polyglot and professor at the American University in the Emirates; **Tobias Hecht,** anthropologist, ethnographer and translator, winner of the 2002 Margaret Meade Award; and **Alva Noë,** professor of philosophy at UC Berkeley. Artists and Architects: **Jacob Collins,** American realist painter, founder of the Grand Central Academy of Art. Athletes: **Stephen Trevor,** Olympic fencer. Businesspeople: **Daniel Ninivaggi,** co-CEO of Federal-Mogul and former CEO of Icahn Enterprises. Broadcasters: **Claire Shipman,** ABC News correspondent. Journalists: **Naftali Bendavid,** Congress correspondent for *The Wall Street Journal*. Legal and Judicial: **Victor Allen Bolden,** judge on the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut. Musicians: **David Nachmanoff,** award-winning American folk



Four members of the Class of '89 met up at the beach. Left to right: Jeffrey Udell, Erik Price, David Streitfeld and Mike Schrag.

singer and sideman to Al Stewart. Playwrights, screenwriters and directors: **Katharina Otto-Bernstein,** filmmaker, producer, screenwriter who was nominated for an Emmy Award for producing *Mapplethorpe: Look at the Pictures*; president of Film Manufacturer., daughter of German Industrialist Werner Otto, heir to the Otto GmbH fortune. Writers: **David Rakoff,** comedic essayist.

Don't worry — there's still plenty of time for the rest of us to get on that list!

1987

Sarah A. Kass
PO Box 300808
Brooklyn, NY 11230
sarahann29uk@gmail.com

No news this time! Please send notes to the address at the top of the column so we have a big Spring issue! Have a happy and healthy start to 2018. I look forward to hearing from you.

1988

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776
Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Eric Fusfield
1945 South George Mason Dr.
Arlington, VA 22204
eric@fusfield.com

As of this writing, it's mid-fall and the Columbia football team is … 6–0?! Consider this former *Spectator* sports editor proud and impressed, just like every other Columbian who recalls our team's travails in the 1980s. I remember writing and editing articles about an 0–6 football team, but the designation 6–0 might have triggered the auto-correct feature on my computer. (Did we have auto-correct back then?) Well done, Lions.

Congratulations to **Jonathan Lavine,** recipient of the 2017 Alexander Hamilton Medal, Columbia College's highest honor. The award recognizes service to the College and accomplishment in a field of endeavor. According to the Columbia College Alumni Association's website: "This year's Alexander Hamilton Medalist is an extraordinarily devoted Columbia citizen and an ambassador and exemplar of the College and University's commitment to inquiry, social engagement and transformation. His longtime support of the College and the University continues to make an indelible mark in the classrooms, across the campus and in the community." A Boston-area resident, Jonathan is co-managing partner at Bain Capital and vice chair of the Trustees of Columbia University. Dinner committee members for the event in Low Library included **Stefanie Katz-Rothman, Nick Leone, Hal Shapiro, Jonathan Sobel, John Vaske** and **Doug Wolf.**

Martin Lewison writes, "Last June I was appointed Northeast district chief for Beta Theta Pi fraternity. As the region's top volunteer, I oversee 15 Beta chapters and colonies in the United States and Canada, including my own Alpha Alpha chapter at Columbia. I work with other volunteers and campus professionals to advise and guide college men in the areas of chapter operations, scholarly achievement and responsible conduct."

My daughter Esther started pre-K last fall, so I'm still a ways off from experiencing the pride and nostalgia that our no-less-than seven (seven!) classmates feel after sending their children off to Morningside Heights this year to join the College or Engineering Classes of 2021. Congratulations and best wishes to the families of **Marten Hirsch** (son Ari of Wynnewood, Pa.); **James Maroulis** (son Peter of Palo Alto, Calif.); **Diane Orlinsky** (daughter Alexandra of Baltimore is at Columbia Engineering); **Michael Satow** (son Jackson of Chappaqua, N.Y.); **Kevin Siegel** (daughter Chiara Drake of San Francisco); **John Williamson** (daughter Kathryn of Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.); and the late **Lauren Farber** (son Zachary Miller of Wellesley Hills, Mass.).

Keep the updates coming to eric@fusfield.com! I look forward to hearing from you.

1989

Emily Miles Terry
45 Clarence St.
Brookline, MA 02446
emilymilesterry@me.com

It's always rewarding to connect with someone who has never been in our column— a real "*CCT* scoop" — like **Maria Nieves** TC'90, who is the president and CEO of the Hudson County Chamber of Commerce, a regional nonprofit in Jersey City. Maria writes, "It's been an exciting challenge to grow the organization over the last six years. Jersey City is booming and undergoing an incredible transformation. It's also a wonderfully diverse and energizing city. Through my work at the chamber, I've occasionally met other Columbia alumnae — always a pleasant surprise. In fact, the Hudson County Chamber honored David Barry '87 last December at our annual gala.

"After Columbia I attended Teachers College, earned a master's in education in 1990 and taught social studies in Harlem for several years before entering the private sector. I worked in financial services for more than a decade, earning an M.B.A. from NYU in 2008. After becoming involved in the local community in Hudson County, N.J., I had the opportunity to lead this nonprofit, something I never imagined myself doing. It's a chance to work with a great group of local business leaders and entrepreneurs. I've also met economic development and trade/business association professionals from across the country, which has helped me learn how communities meet various local challenges in innovative ways. Through the years, I've kept in touch with a handful of folks from our class, including **Andrea Chipman** and **Duchesne Drew,** and a number of folks on Facebook. I've attended a couple of class reunions and a couple of football and basketball games. So perhaps will have the chance to catch up sooner rather than later!"

Classmates, including **Jeffrey Udell,** enjoyed a bunch of fun gatherings recently. Jeffrey writes, "**Erik Price, David Streitfeld, Mike Schrag** and I celebrated our collective 50th with a guys' weekend in Jamaica. Good times and plenty of laughs and memories from our years as Lions. Things here are great. Last year I joined a start-up litigation and white-collar boutique law firm, Walden Macht & Haran. We have 20-plus lawyers and the partners, like me, are almost all former assistant United States attorneys. Lots of interesting work and great camaraderie at the firm. On the home front, my wife, Lucy, and I live in New York with our three kids, who this year are in high school, middle school and elementary school, respectively. Big spread. Hope all is well and hope to see everyone sometime soon — at worst at our 30th (gulp) in a few years."

I enjoyed a reunion of alumnae in the early fall at a leafy and peaceful spot in the Berkshires, where **Kim Harris Ortiz,** Jenna Wright McCarthy '88, Kristine Barakat Flynn '88, **Jody Collens Fidler, Jill Pollack Lewis, Amy Weinreich Rinzler** and **Elisabeth Socolow** gathered to catch up for a lovely, not-long-enough weekend. The distance travel award went to Elisabeth, who flew in from Seoul. We laughed so hard over several delicious meals that I'm sure I'm not alone in saying the memories still make me giggle months later.

Not to be outdone, my husband, Dave Terry '90, gathered with friends for Homecoming Weekend and his fraternity's (Kappa Delta Rho) reunion during the fall. Though Dave didn't pull down a goal post, like he did in '89, he and many of our

classmates, including **Lee Feldman** and **Diane Daltner,** enjoyed the big, satisfying football win against Penn and some joined the rush onto the field after the game. Kappa Delta Rho brothers who returned to celebrate the 35th anniversary of their fraternity include Brent Bessire '91, **Steve Metalios, Ed Hamrick,** Joel Rubenstein '91, Chris Dunlavey '88, **Kaivan Shakib,** Steve Conway '93, Doug Cifu '87, Scott Edwards '87, Brian Eng SEAS'86, **Paul Radvany** and **John MacPhee.** At the Kappa Delta Rho reunion, Dave learned that though beer pong is still popular, kegs are no longer allowed at Columbia, and if you hold an open beer can on the steps of a fraternity house, you could receive a $25 citation from the police, even if you're 51. Hypothetically speaking, of course.

1990

Rachel Cowan Jacobs
youngrache@hotmail.com

Need legal help in California? **Joseph M. Yaffe** was selected last September as one of California's "Top 100 Lawyers" by the *Daily Journal*, the legal newspaper of record in California. He is an executive compensation and benefits attorney practicing in the Silicon Valley office of international law firm Skadden, Arps. This was the second time he was selected for this honor.



Left to right: Robin Wald (née Zornberg) SEAS'90, Sharon Rogers '90, Laura Shaw Frank '90, Rachel Cowan Jacobs '90 and Judy Shampanier '90 in September at Shampanier's son's bar mitzvah.



Several former varsity swimming teammates competed at the U.S. Masters Swimming Nationals, winning the 200m medley relay! Left to right: Chris Beach '91, Chris Tessin '93, Scott Kitzman '92 and Brent Bessire '91.

Also in September, I had the great pleasure to head to Westchester County, N.Y., to attend the bar mitzvah of **Judy Shampanier**'s son. Although he was the star of the occasion, how can I not mention that I also got to hang out with my Carman and East Campus roommates, Judy, **Sharon Rogers, Laura Shaw Frank** and **Robin Zornberg SEAS'90**? We were also delighted to see and catch up with **John Vincenti** and his family. These kids, they grow so fast!

I recently heard a teenager say she'd never use Facebook because that's a platform for middle-aged moms (and dads, I imagine) — guilty, as charged. If you are also a Facebook user and share your news that way, rethink your delivery please and send me an email with your update. It needs to go in this column. Look how short it is this time! Happy Winter to everyone.

1991

Margie Kim
margiekimkim@hotmail.com

I hope everyone is enjoying cooler weather. As I sit here writing in October, it is 96 degrees in Texas!

Chris Beach sent in this entertaining update: "For the past four years, I've reunited with my varsity swimming teammates to compete at U.S. Masters Swimming Nationals, an event that draws 2,000-plus 'experienced' swimmers from around the country. This year we (Chris Tessin '93, Scott Kitzman '92, **Brent Bessire** and me) descended on Riverside, Calif., and competed in the 200m medley relay. We vanquished all comers (25 other teams) in our 45-plus age group to bring home the gold. We were members of the Columbia squad that won an Ivy League Championship title 28 years ago."

Columbia fencer **Michael Feldschuh** married his longtime girlfriend, Alicia, in a ceremony at the Angel Orensanz Foundation on March 4. Michael's Columbia friends have remained steadfast through the decades, and wedding guests included Jon Normile SEAS'89, BUS'02; Paul Chew SEAS'92; **Matthew Freedman;** Mary Beer BC'92; Luis Andrade '90; **Jonathan O'Neill; Morgan Noel; John Griffin;** Leah Bernstein GS'91, SW'94; **Patrick Flynn; Roger Dickes;** Columbia fencing coach Michael Aufrichtig; **Hugh Lawson;** Soren Thompson BUS'16; Michael Kinstlick '90 and Laura Bille SEAS'06. The groom's father is the late Joseph Feldschuh '57 and the groom's mother is Roxanne Fischer BC'62.

After nine years at ESPN.com, **Paul Kuharsky** was part of Disney's downsizing. Building on his reputation as an opinionated Titans and NFL expert and a Pro Football Hall of Fame selector, he launched paulkuharsky.com. He also continues to co-host "The Midday 180" on Nashville's 104.5 The Zone.

Lee Benaka, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Office of Science and Technology, received the Distinguished Service Award at the 2017 American Fisheries Society annual meeting in Tampa, Fla., in August.

Hope you had a happy holiday season! Send news to me: margiekimkim@hotmail.com! Until next time, cheers!

1992

Olivier Knox
olivier.knox@gmail.com

No news to kick off the new year? Let's change that! Send me updates to olivier.knox@gmail.com for the spring issue.

1993

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776
Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Betsy Gomperz
betsy.gomperz@gmail.com

Only in New York. In October, I had arrived from Boston for a few days of work at my firm's New York office. On my walk down 7th Avenue, I bumped into **Addison Golladay,** who was on his way to his first day of work following his honeymoon. Addison married Amy Scheiner in early October on Long Island, followed by a honeymoon in Italy, where he and the new Mrs. Golladay visited Rome, Florence and Venice, and spent some time in the Tuscan countryside. **Jay Michaelson** officiated at the wedding, which was also attended by **Neil Turitz** and **Mar Wolf.** According to Addison, Jay is a "rock star" these days — he is a frequent commentator on NPR, MSNBC and online, and he is a columnist for The Daily Beast and *The Forward* magazine, and is an affiliated assistant professor at Chicago Theological Seminary, among other things.

David Shimkin "lives and works in downtown Los Angeles, and recently had drinks here with **Neil Turitz**, my old *Spectator* buddy. I'm a partner at Cozen O'Connor, where I represent construction and food clients. The firm moved me here in 2013."

Molly Sellner Harris writes: "I have been living in downtown Manhattan (Chelsea) for nearly 20 years with my husband, Jim. I have a son, Eli (14), who likes to get up to Columbia for women's soccer and men's basketball games when his own sports schedule allows. I practice immigration

law and in my spare time do political advocacy work. This coming weekend I was scheduled to run my sixth marathon — Chicago. I recently visited **Lucy Ruwitch Langer** in Portland, Ore. She is a big deal in her field of oncology and cancer genetics in the Pacific Northwest and elsewhere. I also keep in touch with **Eric Redhead,** who is married and lives in Trinidad, as well as with Ann Hoff Swanberg '94, who is an English professor in Birmingham, Ala., where she lives with her husband and with her super-cute daughter, Ada Grace."

Rebecca Boston wrote: "I've been back in Texas for seven years and I work for a limestone mining and manufacturing company, Lhoist. My son is 16 and a junior in high school about to get his driver's license (pray for us both). I hope to move out of Texas in two to three years and currently just enjoy watching a ton of TV and having a child old enough to mostly take care of himself. I will be at the reunion and hope to see everyone."

Alan Freeman writes, "In May, I began a two-year term as chair of the Board of Governors of Charles E. Smith Life Communities, which includes the Hebrew Home of Greater Washington, as well as independent, assisted-living and memory care residential communities for seniors in the D.C. Metro area. We are a 100-plus-year-old organization and the third largest nonprofit of our kind nationally. It's not easy holding down my day job at the same time, but the mental rewards are incredible."

Alan attended Homecoming on October 14 and provided me with an amazing round-up: "It was a crazy weekend — mostly because Robert K. Field was packed with fans and enthusiasm for the football team's 4–0 start. Everybody I spoke with agreed that none of us had ever seen the place quite like that — fans were packed into the stands like sardines, cheering the entire time and storming the field at the end. It was surreal! The downside of the crowd was that it was not so easy to actually find people. I'm sure I missed quite a few, but I do have a few connections that I can report for you. I saw **Kerry Lunz,** who works with me at Blank Rome in the firm's New York office, where she is the director of partner recruiting and integration based in New York. It's fun working with Kerry, as we've been friends since we were Carman floormates freshman year. I also spent time that weekend in Connecticut, where I visited with **Joel Lusman** and his wife, Sarah, as well as their adorable kids, David and Anna. While we see each other pretty regularly, this was a fun visit because Joel uncovered a few old pictures that were fun to look at — although it was a bit of a gut punch to see in pictures how much we all have aged!

"I also saw **Rita Pietropinto-Kitt** SOA'96, who was recently named Board Chair of the Columbia Alumni Association; Joan Campion '92, who gets a mention here as an honorary member of our class; the indefatigable **Neil Turitz,** omnipresent in Hollywood and social media circles and still a shameless proponent of any professional team that calls Boston home; **Ed Turro;** and **Rhanda Moussa,** along with her two daughters (but unfortunately not her husband, **Dan Gillies SEAS'93**). The game was great and I sat with Neil in the student section, and though we certainly felt old at times, it was pretty nuts to see just how enthusiastic they were for all four quarters. Beating Penn in overtime didn't hurt either! Finally, I visited with **Rachel Mintz,** who lives on the Upper West Side. Although Rachel and I speak pretty regularly by phone and email, it was great to visit in person."

Alan, thanks for the incredible round-up!

Rachel Mintz and **Neil Turitz** are co-chairing our 25th reunion, scheduled for Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2. Rachel and Neil have been hard at work since almost the day after our 20th reunion. The formal planning process has now begun with a Reunion Committee kickoff meeting and, thanks to the efforts of Rachel and Neil, we're off to a running start. Notably, this year the Class of 1993 has the unique opportunity to collectively provide scholarship support for one or more deserving students in the current senior class through the Class of 1993 25th Reunion Scholarship Fund. To contribute to the scholarship, please visit college.givenow.columbia.edu and select "25th Reunion Scholarship" from the dropdown menu. We have set the ambitious goal of 93 John Jay Associates (gifts of $1,500 or more) during this milestone reunion year, and we hope you will consider serving as a class leader by making a contribution at this level. Thank you for your support!

In closing, I thank the members of the Reunion Committee who provided me with terrific updates for this column — it has been great to reconnect with so many of you. Please also visit the Columbia College Class of 1993 Facebook page (administered by **Paul Bua**) so you can stay up to date on pre-reunion activities that are in the works across the country.

1994

Leyla Kokmen
lak6@columbia.edu

Not much in the inbox this time, but I did get a great note from **Jon Bonne,** who writes that he returned to New York a couple of years ago, leaving San Francisco and the *San Francisco Chronicle* behind. In New York, Jon continues to write, including for the online magazine *PUNCH* (punchdrink.com), and he is also consulting with JetBlue on its wine program.

"Moving also allowed me and (my now-wife) Valerie to get married, which we did in August 2015, in California," Jon writes. "We've been living in Brooklyn, although we also recently bought a small apartment in Paris, since our work takes us to Europe frequently. On that note, I'm in the final stretch of reporting on *The New French Wine*, my follow-up to *The New California Wine*, so I'm spending a lot of time in small French villages!"

The New French Wine is due in 2019, but in the meantime, Jon's next book, *The New Wine Rules: A Genuinely Helpful Guide to Everything You Need to Know*, came out in November. "Hope to see some of my fellow Columbians while I'm out on book tour — on either continent," he writes.

Congrats to Jon on all his great news. And, for the rest of you, drop me a line at lak6@columbia.edu. Your classmates want to hear what you've been up to.

1995

Janet Lorin
jrf10@columbia.edu

Thanks to **Rolando Pujol** for sending in his update for a previous issue and for connecting me with some classmates to request they send in an update as well. I appreciate **Michael Berne** answering the call!

Mike lives in Berkeley, Calif., with his wife, Vivienne. He founded a retail planning and real estate consulting practice in New York in 2002, MJB Consulting. The firm is hired by municipalities, business improvement districts, community development corporations and educational institutions, as well as by private developers, investors and retailers in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom to advise on retail market potential and tenanting strategy.

"In plain English, I help clients understand what kinds of retail they can realistically attract to (or sustain in) their districts and projects, and what that entails," Mike writes.

Mike also speaks and writes on the subject. He is at work on a book project about downtowns and Main Streets, "whether they will ever again approximate the primacy that they enjoyed during their heyday (roughly 1860–1960), and if not, what role they will play instead," Mike writes. "It will be based on my experiences during the last two decades as a retail consultant on the revitalization of such districts across the U.S., Canada and the U.K."

Mike also recently contributed a chapter ("History of Retail Development and Consumer Culture in the U.S.: To Sprawl and Back") for a forthcoming volume on suburban downtowns, *The New Suburban Experiment.*

Before starting his firm, Mike earned an M.Phil. from Cambridge University and worked in various aspects of the industry in New York, including a retail developer and planning consultancy.

He and Vivienne, a violinist and writer, married in 2010 and moved to Berkeley that year. Several classmates attended their wedding including Rolando, **Ravi Bhasin, Anne Uyei-Kistler** and Amit Batra SEAS'95.

Mike can be contacted at mikeberne@consultmjb.com.

Listening to Mike's accomplishments takes me back to my days writing about suburban sprawl for the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution.* I hope other classmates will read Mike's update and take the time to send in their own.

1996

Ana S. Salper
ana.salper@nyumc.org

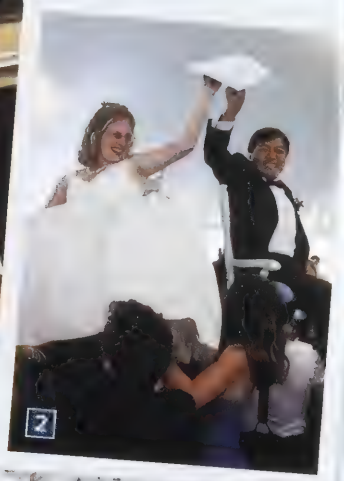
Greetings, classmates! I would be remiss if I did not kick off these notes with huge kudos to **Jodi Kantor,** author and *New York Times* journalist,

Just Married!

CCT welcomes photos where at least one member of the couple is a College alum. Please submit your high-resolution photo, and caption information, on our photo webform: **college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.** Congratulations!

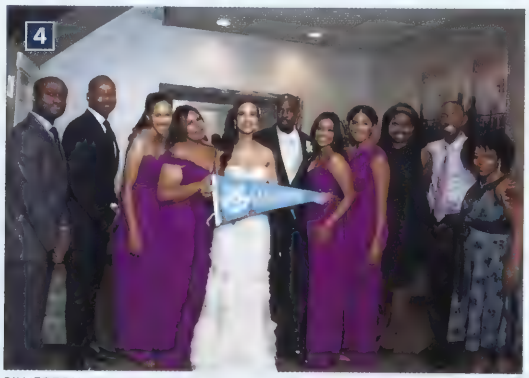


PETER CARTER '01





RODNEY BAILEY



SILVERFOX



JUSTINE UNGARO











BARRY WILLIAMS

1. Benjamin Letzler '02 married Eva Crnigoj at the Palazzo Comunale in Pirano, Slovenia, on September 9.

2. Sarah Schrager Gitlin '13 married Tao Tan '07 in Hunter, N.Y., on October 7.

3. Rebecca Guiterman '10 married Daniel Marasco SEAS'10 in Chevy Chase, Md., on September 24, 2016. Left to right: Daniel Falconi SEAS'10, the groom, Sam Parl '10, Sophronia Yu SEAS'10, James Francis '10, Angela Velez '10, Tom Nicholson '09, Michelle Meleski Nicholson '10, the bride, Niket Pandey '10, Lauren Ko '10, Rob Elliott SEAS'15, Khalid Ahmed '10, Vanessa Ohta '10, Tyler Carson SEAS'14 and Will Cullen TC'14.

4. Talia Brooks-Faustin '05, PS'09 was married at the Woodbury Country Club on July 22. In attendance were Wasnard Victor SEAS'05, Henry Stanley SEAS'05, Maya Hughes PS'09, Yesenia Miranda SEAS'07, Diti Sangoi '05, Giselle Torres '05, Joyce Cadesca '09, Kingsley Cruickshank '05 and Jami Jackson Mulgrave '07.

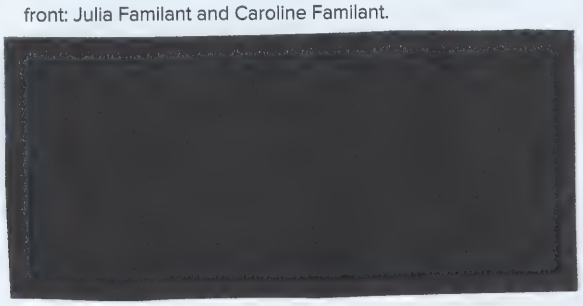
5. Michele Klapper '08 shared a photo from her September 2016 wedding to Richard Michaelis.

6. Derrick Mayo '02 married Danielle Conahan in Wapwallopen, Pa., on June 17. Left to right: Chris Wiedemann '03, Mario Pedriani, Kris Goldhair '00, Michael Doyle '95, Chris Van Ens '02, David Popkin '97, Phil Bussey '93, Craig Austin '02, Michael McBrien '02, Andy Kaynor '96, Jaime Irvine '03, Abe Yasser '99, Sean Alcoba '98, Victor Muñoz '02, Rachel Yasser (née Miller) '01, James Tubridy '97, Gary Raimondo '99, Meredith Case (née Corkery) '03 and Joe Case '02.

7. Brian Barbour '13 shared a photo from Max Craig '11's August wedding. Left to right: Sansho Scott, Matt Johnson '12, Steve Egee '12, Mark Cisco '13, Barbour, the groom, Dan Trepanier '09, Niko Scott '10, Dean Kowalski '13, Brendan Doyle '12, Pat Foley '10 and Blaise Staab SEAS'12.

8. Michael Feldschuh '91 married his longtime girlfriend, Alicia, at the Angel Orensanz Foundation on March 4. Left to right: Jon Normile SEAS'89, Paul Chew SEAS'92, Matthew Freedman '91, Mary Beer BC'92, Luis Andrade '90, Jonathan O'Neill '91, the groom, Morgan Noel '91, John Griffin '91, Leah Bernstein GS'91, Patrick Flynn '91 and Roger Dickes '91.

9. Betsy Morais '11 and Thomas Rhiel '11 were married in Brooklyn, N.Y., on August 12. Left to right: Daniel Morais, Kelly Stout, Raphael Pope-Sussman '11, Emily Greenhouse, Phil Crone '11, the bride, the groom, Emma Allen, Andy Rhiel, Emily Meland, Ben Cotton '11 and Ethan Wong '11; in front: Julia Familant and Caroline Familant.



11. Adria Armbrister '98, PH'14 married Franck Makouangou at the Atlantis Resort Paradise Island in the Bahamas on July 28. Left to right: Josue Avila, Christine Hurry, the bride, the groom, Natasha Johnson '99 and Karen Florez PH'10.

for breaking the Harvey Weinstein story. That is the kind of risk-taking investigative journalism that is critically important for our country in this political climate.

Congratulations on that blockbuster story, Jodi!

Frankie Foer, national correspondent for *The Atlantic* and a fellow at the New America Foundation, recently published a book, *World Without Mind: The Existential Threat of Big Tech.* It presents an ominous view of the influence and control large technology firms — Facebook, Google, Amazon — have on our lives. As one of the few people on the planet who does not have a Facebook account (or Instagram, Twitter, etc.), and as the parent of a tech-addicted middle-schooler, this book is right up my alley.

In other news, I attended the Homecoming game against Penn. My kids wanted to go to the alumni BBQ luncheon and see a Columbia game, so up to Inwood we went. Setting aside the fact that I was carded at the bar in the alumni tent (I mean, come ON — in what universe do any of us still look under 21?), we had a great day. After loading up on Columbia gear and paraphernalia (all part of my master college recruitment plan …), we enjoyed a nice lunch in the tent and then watched the Lions' victory over Penn. It was fun hanging out with **Whitney Chiate** (née Berkholtz), who was here from San Francisco to visit her friend Maggi Baumbusch '99, who is married to **Andy Brooks.** Maggi and Andy, who live in Connecticut, were at Homecoming with their four sons. It was also nice seeing **Helen Gurfel SEAS'96** and her family there, as well as **Elizabeth Yuan.**

And that, alas, is all I have for now. You all have been woefully quiet lately — please send in notes. I want to hear from you!

I leave you with this:

"Middle age is when you've met so many people that every new person you meet reminds you of someone else."

— Ogden Nash

1997

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

[Editor's note: *CCT* thanks **Sarah Katz** for her years of dedication and great columns! If you are interested in the class correspondent role, please reach out: cct@columbia.edu.]

CC'97! After 20 years, I am passing the torch as your class correspondent. I have loved remaining in touch with all of you, and wish everyone the best.

Kerensa Harrell enjoyed returning to NYC for our reunion last June. It was her first time traveling anywhere since having a baby in October 2016. Before the baby arrived, and since moving to Florida in 2015, she had been flying back to NYC once a month in order to continue attending the monthly meetings of her Daughters of the American Revolution chapter (Kerensa is a member of the Manhattan chapter of D.A.R.). The chapter's meetings take place at Gramercy Park in the historic Tilden mansion, a Victorian Gothic Revival-style home that belonged to a former governor of New York, Samuel J. Tilden.

Kerensa has been the chapter's recording secretary for several years, but another member has been filling in for her since the baby was born. Kerensa will now step down because she realizes that she won't be able to maintain the regular airplane trips with a baby in tow. "Ah, the sweet sacrifices of motherhood!" she muses.

1998

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776
Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Sandie Angulo Chen
sandie.chen@gmail.com

Happy Winter, Class of '98. I hope you've all saved the date for our 20-year reunion, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2. Those of us on the Reunion Committee are planning a long weekend of activities to help us catch up and celebrate. In the meantime, please send in your updates!

Our sole update is from **Ilya Gertsberg,** who writes: "After 10 years in Russia, I moved to the south of France to run a small family office in Monaco. Please give me a holler if you are traveling to 'a sunny place for shady people' (iyg1@columbia.edu)!"

Ilya adds that still based in Moscow are **Yev Konovalenko,** who is head

of sales at a local investment bank, and **Dmitri Kostov,** a banker at Goldman and the husband of Bolshoi prima ballerina Olga Smirnova. Not very far away, in Helsinki, lives **Andras Kovacs.** He is a founder of a battery technology start-up and a great dad to Oliver (5).

On a trip to New York earlier this year, Ilya caught up with old friends and is happy to report that everyone is doing just fine: **Dan Natoli, Joo Hong, Amol Sarva** and **Tomo Aiko SEAS'98.**

Please make it a 2018 resolution to send in a note updating our class. We'd love to hear from you!

1999

Adrienne Carter and Jenna Johnson
adieliz@gmail.com
jennajohnson@gmail.com

Dear classmates, we have some exciting news: A dispatch from a first-timer, **Alexander "Sasha" Ames**!

Sasha's in the Bay Area, "working at Lawrence Livermore National Lab on data science and data management applications." His work has included "software for microbial genome and gene detection" and developing "analysis tools for the climate simulation and observational data sets that ultimately make their way into the UN IPCC (intergovernmental panel on climate change) reports on climate change."

We're grateful for your work, Sasha, and depending on that analysis. Keep us posted?

Sasha also reports that **Konrad Fiedler** was recently honored for his filmmaking. At the BendFilm Fest in Oregon last October, Konrad's *Running Eagle* won "Best of the Northwest Short." The film follows the escape of a girl from the oil fields of North Dakota back to Blackfeet country in Montana.

Congratulations, Konrad!

In other news from the West Coast, **Chris Hardin** is settling in nicely to Los Angeles life, complete with convertible, a dog who has his own Hawaiian shirt and a job that involves the water (he works for Princess Cruises). Chris has only been in California since last February, so you still have time to welcome him in his first year, Pacific Lions. Give him a shout!

Rebecca Sheir has paired her years of experience in the public-radio world (stints with the Alaska Public Radio Network, WAMU 88.5 in Washington, D.C. and NPR's *Weekend All Things Considered*) with her husband's talents in composition and sound design to launch an audio production company, Sheir and Shim. The company is producing Circle Round with WBUR. It's a storytelling podcast for kids that adapts an international folktale for listeners as young as 4. They're also producing a new podcast from WBUR and *The Washington Post,* hosted by *Washington Post* national arts reporter Geoff Edgers. Called "The Edge of Fame" the podcast "blends in-depth interviews with off-the-cuff field recordings to paint intimate, surprising audio portraits of actors, musicians and comedians — from beloved performers you think you already know to up-and-comers bursting onto the scene."

Rebecca and her husband, Eric, recently had their first baby and moved from D.C. to the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts. She'd love to hear what her fellow alumni think of the podcasts. "You can find them on iTunes/Apple podcasts, Stitcher or wherever you get your podcast fix," she says. Contact her at rebecca@sheirandshim.com.

Many happy returns on all the new adventures, Rebecca!

Thanks for all the updates, friends. And keep them coming!



Nina Tannenbaum '99, her father, Michael J. Tannenbaum '59, and her daughter, Tiye Castelli, made Homecoming 2017 a family affair.

2000

Prisca Bae
pb134@columbia.edu

Class of 2000, have a great start to the New Year! Make it a resolution to send in a Class Notes update; we want to hear from you! *CCT* is also happy to run photos that include at least two College alumni, so if you want to see yourself and your friends in this space, submit a photo and caption info to college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

2001

Jonathan Gordin
jrg53@columbia.edu

This column needs notes! Big plans for 2018, fun travel, new hobbies, life changes or just want to say hello? We want to hear from you! Email me to be included in the Spring issue. Have a healthy and happy 2018!

2002

Sonia Dandona Hirdaramani
soniah57@gmail.com

Welcome to the world, Aidan Sunjoon David Lee! **Albert Lee SEAS'02** and his wife, Cara, are over the moon to announce their son's September 7 arrival.

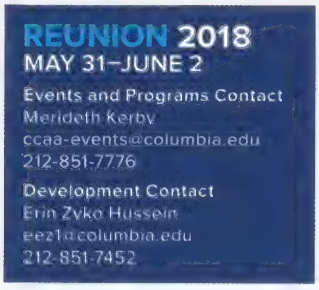
Sarah Richardson and Rich Olson GSAS'03 celebrated the birth of their son, Martin, in July 2016. Last spring, Sarah was promoted to full professor with tenure in the department of the history of science and studies of women, gender and sexuality at Harvard.

Ellen Gustafson and her husband, Mike, welcomed their first child — a smiley, curious 8-lb. girl — on June 7 after a three-year struggle with a recently discovered genetic disorder, stillbirth and many rounds of IVF. She sends her thoughts to those in our class who have had trouble or are still in the process of conceiving and is hoping that through honest announcements like hers, we can help improve fertility science and take stillbirth and infertility out of the shadows.

Derrick Mayo married Danielle Conahan in Wapwallopen, Pa., on June 17. In the wedding party were Gary Raimondo '99, **Victor Muñoz, Chris Van Ens** and **Michael McBrien.** Derrick and Danielle were joined by many Columbia alumni: Chris Wiedemann '03, Kris Goldhair '00, Michael Doyle '95, David Popkin '97, Phil Bussey '93, **Craig Austin,** Andy Kaynor '96, Jaime Irvine '03, Abe Yasser '99, Sean Alcoba '98, Rachel Yasser (née Miller) '01, James Tubridy '97, Meredith Case (née Corkery) '03, **Joe Case** and Kate Alcoba (née Mulvey) SIPA'05.

Kelly Jamieson Thomas SEAS'02 launched cultivatedcuriosity.com, a wellness site to ignite curiosity in all of us! Before that, she lived in NYC until 2016, where she earned a Ph.D. from NYU in 2010 and then went back to Columbia for her post-doc. She got married in 2010 in NYC to a man she met when she was a sophomore at Columbia! They have two kids (5 and 2) and live in Darien, Conn.

2003



Michael Novielli
mjn29@columbia.edu

First and foremost, please save the date for our 15th reunion, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2. I'm on the Reunion Committee along with

Tamar Simon, Nathania Nisonson, Geoffrey Williams, Josh Fay Hurvitz, David Keeffe, Lauren Harrison, Katie Sheehy, Nadege Fleurimond, Sam Arora, Justin Sellman and **Carter Reum.** There are many ways for you to get involved in the planning, so just drop us a line if you'd like to serve on one of the committees. Please also join our CC'03 group and follow our page on Facebook: facebook.com/columbia2003.

And now on to the updates for this issue: My company, Due West Education, recently hosted former Barnard College professor and Director of the Barnard Education Program Lee Ann Bell for a series of screenings of her documentary film, *40 Years Later: Now Can We Talk?* It was great to catch up with her and reminisce about classmates in the program, such as **Peter Macchia** and Eliza Bang Chung BC'03.

Eugene Cho '04 is faculty attending physician and clerkship director at Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

Gaurav Shah writes that he and his wife, Heena, are "very excited to share the launch of Valani with the world and you, our friends and family! Please be among the first to take in our new line of modern, minimalist jewelry featuring beautiful colored gemstones."

Janice Berg is running for judge of the 247th family district court of Harris County, Texas. Janice has specialized in family law practice and appellate advocacy for her own office out of Houston for five years. She was previously an attorney with Schlanger Silver Barg & Paine, also working in family law.

Matthew Continetti is editor-in-chief of the *Washington Free Beacon* and was interviewed for the Fall 2017 issue of the *Columbia Journalism Review*.

Amy Phillips writes, "My husband, Elia Einhorn, and I welcomed our first child, a daughter, Alana Conwy Ann Phillips, on June 22. (We call her Conwy.) She's amazing. I recently celebrated my 12-year anniversary at the music website Pitchfork, where I am the news director. Pitchfork was acquired by Condé Nast in 2015, so I work in One World Trade Center, alongside *Vogue, The New Yorker, Vanity Fair* and Condé Nast's other titles."

Nicole Tartak's family members in Puerto Rico are safe, but she encourages classmates who want to help the situation in Puerto Rico to donate to Songboards of Peace: gofundme.com/4ijyxlc.

David Keeffe is the senior director of the Metro New York Program at Brown, where he has held various management roles within development for six years.

Nathania Nisonson is a senior specialist of impressionist and modern art at Bonhams.

2004

Jaydip Mahida
jmahida@gmail.com

Lev Brie is back in New York after a brief sojourn in San Francisco. He is leading a special project at Sidewalk Labs, an Alphabet company whose mission is to use technology to improve cities.

Eugene Cho is faculty attending physician and clerkship director at Long Island Jewish Medical Center. He is also an assistant professor at Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine.

After earning an M.B.A. from The University of Chicago Booth School of Business and spending more than six years in brand management, **Sabreena Karim** launched her own brand — Cloak & Cuddle — which she says is the first fashionable and full-coverage breastfeeding cover that gives mothers the confidence to comfortably breastfeed wherever and whenever. Check out her patent-pending nursing cover at cloakandcuddle.com. She promises a discount to Columbia alumni, and a portion of all Cloak & Cuddle proceeds will go to UNICEF.

Nainesh Parikh moved to Florida to join the faculty of Moffitt Cancer Center. If you are ever in the Gulf Coast area, drop a line!

Please continue to send in updates, as we want to hear from as many folks as possible. Career and family updates are always fun, but please reach out to share about trips you might take, events you have attended or are looking forward to, or even interesting books or shows you have come across. You can send updates either via the email at the top of the column or through the *CCT* Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2005

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

Garner Robinson is living in his hometown of New Orleans. In 2014, he became the fifth generation of his family to own and manage Robinson Lumber Co. Last summer he spoke to a Business School class on "Managing Conflict in Family Business" — a topic on which he wishes he had a little less experience.

Talia Brooks-Faustin PS'09 was married at the Woodbury Country Club in July. In attendance were **Wasnard Victor SEAS'05, Henry Stanley SEAS'05,** Maya Hughes PS'09, Yesenia Miranda SEAS'06, **Diti Sangoi, Giselle Torres,** Joyce Cadesca '09, **Kingsley Cruickshank** and Jami Jackson Mulgrave '07.

Happy 2018, CC'05! Let's start the New Year off right by sharing news. Your classmates want to hear from you!

2006

Michelle Oh Sing
mo2057@columbia.edu

Hi everyone. It's my pleasure to share some great news from classmates: **Andrew Stinger** has joined the strategic partnerships team at Facebook in Menlo Park, Calif. He can still be found leading SoulCycle classes as an instructor in the Bay Area, often at the Palo Alto studio before his workday.

Kathleen Carr Adams writes, "Our third child, Rose Casserly Adams, was born on August 18 in Washington, D.C. We are with the Department of State at Embassy Rangoon, Burma, and will remain here until summer 2019."

Jeremy Kotin was thrilled to see *Blood Stripe*, a feature film he edited and co-produced, play in limited release across the nation this past fall after winning top narrative honors at the L.A. Film Festival and the audience award at the Austin Film Festival last year. On the personal front, Jeremy tied the knot with Evan Jacobs during a rainstorm late this spring with a handful of Columbians in attendance: **Gabrielle Ramos-Solomon, Lauren Lillie, Yinan Zhang** and **Tatyana Dorfman.**

My husband and I welcomed our second child, Matthew Jihoon Sing, on July 19. We are enjoying life as a family of four and welcome visitors if you find yourself in Dallas!

2007

David D. Chait
david.donner.chait@gmail.com

Thank you, everyone, for sharing your exciting updates! **Rebecca Boti** (née Liu) writes, "My husband, Shaun, and I are happy to announce the arrival of Norah Boti last summer. She's a serious baby but learning to smile, and she already has her Columbia onesie and stuffed lion (thanks to fellow alums). We're expecting to get her started on the classics as soon as she's holding her head up steadily — she's going to need to be ready for the Core Curriculum, obviously. Columbia Class of 2039, here we come!"

Jami Jackson Mulgrave has also become a mom! She gave birth to a beautiful boy named Ezra Alcides Mulgrave on October 3. Ezra was 6 lbs., 13 oz. and 19 inches

Submit Your Photo

CCT welcomes photos that feature at least two College alumni. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**



PACIFIC DREAM PHOTOGRAPHY

Anthony Walker '07 and Tanya Lindsay '07 got engaged in August at Montage Laguna Beach, Calif.

long. Jami and her husband, Alcides Mulgrave, are overjoyed.

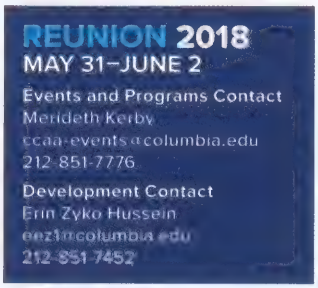
Annie Berke SOA'09 shares, "I was awarded a Ph.D. in film and media studies and American studies from Yale last spring, and I have been teaching at Hollins University, a women's college in Roanoke, Va., since Fall 2016. As a film scholar, I regularly attend the annual meeting of the Society of Cinema and Media Studies. Last year I palled around with Michael Cramer '04, whose book, *Utopian Television: Rossellini, Watkins, and Godard Beyond Cinema*, was sold out at the conference book fair! I also attended our 10-year reunion last summer, enjoyed seeing *Waitress* on Broadway and ate as much free food as I could stuff in my face. Thanks, CC!"

Sarah Schrager Gitlin '13 and **Tao Tan** BUS'11 were married on October 7 in an outdoor afternoon ceremony in Hunter, N.Y., the hometown of the bride's family. The couple was introduced by a mutual friend at a Super Bowl party in Manhattan in 2012 and their wedding announcement was featured in *The New York Times*. Tao shares, "Our theme color is Pantone 292 and Sunil Gulati GSAS'86 gave a toast. ;-)"

Anthony Walker and **Tanya Lindsay** got engaged on August 25 in Laguna Beach, Calif. Anthony writes, "We are planning to have our wedding this fall."

Kasia Nikhamina continues to run full tilt at Redbeard Bikes in DUMBO, Brooklyn, while writing her first book (*Amelia Eyre* — stay tuned). She and Ilya, her partner, are looking for bright, passionate folks to join their growing team. If you are smart, articulate and love to get people on bikes, drop them a line at kasia@redbeardbikes.com or visit the shop.

2008



Neda Navab
nn2126@columbia.edu

Paula Cheng-Mehta and **Neil Mehta** welcomed their first child, Dev, to the world on September 10. He is happy and healthy with his parents in Maplewood, N.J., who are over the moon. He is already a big Lions fan.

Andrew Martin's first novel, *Early Work*, will be published in July and will be followed by a story collection. Keep it bookmarked for a summer read!

On December 1, **Alex Gartenfeld** inaugurated a new permanent home at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, where he is the founding deputy director and chief curator. In February, Alex will be curator of the 2018 New Museum Triennial, the first outside-institutional curator to be selected for this honor.

Lydia Ross was named the 2017 Museum Art Educator of the Year by the Illinois Art Education Association. "I received this award following four years as the manager of school teacher programs at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago," she says.

Liz Hormann (née Reeve) and her husband, **Craig Hormann SEAS'08,** BUS'14, left NYC after nine years and moved to Dallas.

Elizabeth Smith was delighted to join the International Culinary Center last year as the wine coordinator, helping run the wine program where she studied the year before. "It's a huge joy to be able to bring the world of wine to people every day, and to continue my studies both in (and out!) of work. Cheers!" she writes.

Thanks for writing! Please send your news to nn2126@columbia.edu. Happy 2018!

2009

Alidad Damooei
damooei@gmail.com

An empty mailbox this time, CC'09. What are you up to in 2018? Let us know your plans for the year; we'd love to hear from you! Email me at damooei@gmail.com to have your news in the Spring issue.

2010

Julia Feldberg Klein
juliafeldberg@gmail.com

Anastasia Alt founded Pathspark in 2016, and in October 2017, the startup was accepted to the Barclays Accelerator powered by Techstars in New York. By reinventing professional development for the enterprise, Pathspark built a platform that provides a data-driven approach to coaching so both companies and employees can reach their full potential. To work with them or to learn more about how they are disrupting talent development, visit pathspark.com or send an email to info@pathspark.com.

Adam Valen Levinson writes, "Hi guys — my first book comes out in November, *The Abu Dhabi Bar Mitzvah*. It opens with our graduation in the rain, and ends a couple of years later (approximately when I stopped growing up) in Somalia. Would love to know what you think, or to see you at book events or to help you plan your next vacation in Afghanistan."

Milan Cox (née Rodriguez) shares some exciting news: "On the Fourth of July we welcomed a sweet little baby boy, Barron Edison Cox. To us, the fireworks will always be for him now!"

And now, our regular installment from **Chris Yim:** "[As I write,] I'm training for my first marathon. I'm running with my father-in-law and roommate in Athens, Greece, on November 12. I have been training the past few months, and it's been quite a journey.

"Otherwise, my life is pretty odd these days. I'm learning how to become an acrobat. I had this weird fascination for the circus as a kid, and even though that industry is dying there is a group in Korea that is blowing up. This is how I plan to reconcile with my homeland after it tried to draft me into its army. My ambition is to become an acrobat in one of its circus groups. My teacher tells me that I have the build for it, and he says that my personality reminds him of the Chinese acrobat in *Ocean's Eleven*. I blushed slightly when he told me this because that's actually my favorite character in all of the *Ocean's Eleven* franchise.

"My life is consumed these days with training. I have hired a Korean tutor to help me once I land in Seoul. I am planning to try out for the group in the middle of next year, so I have a few months left. My diet is super strict — I only eat kimchi and sushi without the rice. After listening to a podcast on nutrition, I stopped eating carbs and rice altogether. I'm 30 now and I'm in the best shape I have ever been in. It's exciting stuff. I've come a long way from the fat kid that I used to be in



Send in Your News

Share what's happening in your life with classmates. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct,** or send news to the address at the top of your column.

elementary and middle school. I still wake up from the dreams that I have of the older kids at boarding school calling me a panda and making fun of me for having a blowfish face. The irony is that I ate a blowfish in Busan, South Korea, when I lived there in 2010. Those suckers are toxic when not prepared correctly.

"My wife, Grace, has been super supportive through this entire process. I try my best to support her in return. If things don't work out, we plan to sail to Hawaii from Korea this year. She's learning how to sail, and I'm going to be her first mate. We found a guy on Craigslist who wants to sell us his boat, but he can't guarantee that he can get it to Korea, so we're holding off on the purchase. I have opened up this invitation to a few friends. If others want to join this sailing trip, give me a call and we'll find space for you to serve on the boat. No freeloaders!

"If you don't already follow Tiger Woods on Instagram, he's making a lot of progress. I've been saying for a while that I predict his comeback. So far, he's been making me eat my words, but I still have hope. I have dreams that I'll meet him and tell him how proud I am of him. I hope to name my child Tiger one day after my hero."

While running Redbeard Bikes in DUMBO, Brooklyn, with her partner, Kasia Nikhamina '07 is writing her first book.

2011

Nuriel Moghavem and Sean Udell
nurielm@gmail.com
sean.udell@gmail.com

Hey 2011! We're excited to share two big updates this quarter. **Kurt Kanazawa** is back in Los Angeles, where he is reciting The Bard and brandishing swords as Macduff in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, directed by Emmy-nominated SFX producer and *Bad Robot* alum Curtis Krick of SyFy's *The Magicians*, at Studio/Stage; it ran through November 4. Never too big of a star to forget his friends, he remains at your disposal* for a glass o' wine or wassail at the new Eataly in L.A.! *Così posso parlare in italiano più spesso, se qualcuno vuole*! See more at hailmacbeth.org and on instagram @kurtsanchezkanazawa. (*Kurt's words — your correspondents do not endorse "disposing" of Kurt. He's likable enough.)

Disposing of singledom, **Betsy Morais** and **Thomas Rhiel** were married on August 12 in Brooklyn, N.Y. **Ben Cotton** officiated (this must have been so adorable). **Ethan Wong, Raphael Pope-Sussman** and **Phil Crone** were among the wedding party members. Other Columbia friends joined in the celebration: **Claudia Gallego, Asad Syrkett, Dino Grandoni, Dan Amzallag, Neel Patel, Annie Minoff, Akhil Mehta SEAS'11, Julia Halperin,** Sadia Latifi '09, Miriam Krule '10, Rachel Vishnepolsky '10, Amanda Cormier '12, Emily Nagel '12, Eli Grober '13, Bob Vulfov '13, Adrianna Aguilar BC'13, Abigail Fisch '14, Nora Hirshman BC'11, Hannah Yudkin BC'11 and Ian Corey-Boulet '09. Ethan, a recent graduate of Yale Law School and Betsy's Man of Honor, was tasked with collecting cash in an apron, on loan to him from the Rhiels for the purposes of a Polish tradition: Betsy wore a babuskha and danced to polka music with each paying guest. **Neel Patel,** whose wallet was empty, was permitted to pay by Venmo because he lives in Silicon Valley now.

That's it for now. Continue to send your life updates as they happen to the addresses at the top of the column!

2012

Sarah Chai
sarahbchai@gmail.com

Hi Class of 2012. I start with a Columbia love story: After meeting during a beginner's swimming class in 2008 and then seven years of courtship, food adventures, trips to JJ's, travels, marathons and NBA finals, **Jenieve Guevarra** and Amin Fernandez '11 are pleased to announce their engagement. Their wedding is scheduled for August 25, to take place at the Iglesia Ni Cristo (Church of Christ) in Elizabeth, N.J.

Wishing you both a lifetime of happiness!

Next, congratulations are in order for **Kristin Simmons** and **Alissa Funderburk** GSAS'19!

Kristin is thrilled to announce her first solo art show, Desperate Pleasures, which ran from October 20 through the end of November at Galerie Mourlot on East 79th Street and Madison Avenue in New York City. The show featured original paintings and prints from Kristin's last three years of work.

Alissa is excited to have begun a master's program in oral history at Columbia. As a New York native and devoted member of her Astoria church community, Alissa intends to pursue oral history research that will focus on exploring the religions and cultures that make up New York City, recording the stories of those communities. This project aims to contribute to the understanding of religious tolerance in the "melting pot" of New York City. Alissa will ask the question, "What do you believe in?" and uncover the many ways in which religion, either belief or disbelief, has an impact on the lives of others.



MICHELLE LYN ANDUJAR '13

Amin Fernandez '11 and Jenieve Guevarra '12 had their engagement photos taken at Columbia.

Sadly, no other updates to report at this time, but Facebook tells me you have lots going on (I am not cool enough to have Instagram), so please drop me a line! Whether you just went on a cool vacation, took some artsy photos, started a new chapter of your life, were reminiscing about our college days or just want to say hi, I (and your other classmates) would love to hear from you: sarahbchai@gmail.com.

2013

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776
Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Tala Akhavan
talaakhavan@gmail.com

Blaine Harper is a third-year Ph.D. student at the University of Arizona studying mechanisms of memory consolidation during sleep. She defended her master's thesis last spring and was excited to present the findings at the Society for Neuroscience conference last November.

After spending a year in Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton's Washington, D.C., office as a litigation

associate, **John Bernard Kenney** is taking a clerkship with the Hon. Ralph Erickson of the Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. John is excited to return to the Midwest for the clerkship, which will last a year and a half, before likely returning to the East Coast. As oral arguments for the Eighth Circuit are held in St. Louis and St. Paul, he is looking forward to catching up with any CC'13 grads who live in those cities.

The Rev. **Eva Suarez** was ordained to the Episcopal Priesthood on June 17 at the Washington National Cathedral. The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, bishop of the Diocese of Washington, presided. Eva's ordination came shortly after the completion of a joint degree program between Union Theological Seminary and the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College (CUNY). On July 2, Eva began a full-time pastorate at St. James' Episcopal Church in Manhattan, where she is the Rockwell Fellow.

Amanda Gutterman spent the past year and a half as chief marketing officer at ConsenSys, one of the largest and fastest-growing startups building blockchain technology, with 450 employees in 23 countries. Founded by the co-founder of Ethereum, the most advanced blockchain in production, ConsenSys is leading the way toward the decentralized, next-generation web. Amanda joined ConsenSys after co-founding and growing digital media startup Slant and working with Arianna Huffington to scale The Huffington Post's contributor network. Slant, whose business model involves micro-payments, led her down the rabbit hole of blockchain, which holds enormous potential to open up business models in the media industry and transform the larger global economy.

After graduation, **Nicole Brambila** taught culturally responsive and social justice-oriented social studies to 5th- and 6th-graders in Hartford, Conn., through Teach For America. In 2013, she was honored as a recipient of the Sue Lehmann Teaching & Learning Fellowship. After her third and final year in the classroom, Nicole began her legal education at Yale. Currently in her second year there, she is the co-president of the Project for Law and Education at Yale, the co-founder of the Removal Defense Assistance Project, the community outreach chair with the school's Latino Law Students Association and the submissions editor for Yale's *Journal of Law & Feminism*.

Simone Nguyen recently finished three years at the Asian American Bar Association of New York, the largest local minority bar association in the country, where she was involved in political organizing, networking and leadership training for Asian-American professionals, and pro bono work as a community builder for Chinatown and other Asian populations in New York City. She also recently competed on the 35th season of *Survivor: Heroes vs. Healers vs. Hustlers*. Since then, she has relocated to Los Angeles with plans to return to GSAS this fall for a graduate degree in human rights, focusing on sex trafficking across international borders.

Sarah Schrager Gitlin and Tao Tan '07, BUS'11 were married on October 7 in Hunter, N.Y., the hometown of the bride's family. Rabbi Sarah Batya Joselow of Columbia/Barnard Hillel officiated. Both the bride and the groom are management consultants for McKinsey & Co. Sarah graduated magna cum laude as a John Jay Scholar from the College and earned a J.D. from Harvard, where she was president of the Law School Democrats. At the Business School, Tao was a Toigo Fellow, received the Heffernan Award for Service and graduated with Dean's Honors.

The couple didn't meet at Columbia; they were introduced by a mutual friend at a Super Bowl party in 2012. After a heated, political argument over either "unsustainable entitlement spending" (the Republican groom's words) or "the social safety net" (the Democratic bride's words), the couple went on their first date the following week and their first international trip three months later. Forty countries of joint trips later, they look forward to a lifetime of ever-more adventurous explorations.



Shaliesha Hinds PS'18, Michael May '14, André Cheng '14 and Olutosin Akanni '14 enjoyed time together at the College of Physicians and Surgeons Dinner, held in June at the Frick Museum.

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook

facebook.com/alumnicc

Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

2014

Rebecca Fattell
rsf2121@columbia.edu

Mae Smith premiered the first season of her original comedic web series, *Educated Fleas*, on Vimeo. The series follows Ruth, a woman who accidentally becomes a freelance sex educator to the children of wealthy New York parents. Each five- to six-minute episode features a talk with a child, and then explores that same issue through the lens of an adult relationship in Ruth's life.

Educated Fleas is a sex-positive comedy that strives to ask big, uncomfortable questions and normalize conversations around sexuality. Watch it and find out more at educatedfleas.net.

Mae is a fellow in the Writers Guild of America/Made in NY Writers Room program.

I hope all CC'14ers are having a great start to 2018. Send me your news!

2015

Kareem Carryl
kareem.carryl@columbia.edu

No news to kick off 2018? Let's change that! Travel, jobs, hobbies — share it all with your classmates by emailing me. *CCT* also prints photos that include at least two College alumni, so if you've been hanging out with classmates, you can submit photos and caption info at college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Have a great start to the year!

2016

Lily Liu-Krason
lliukrason@gmail.com

Hey 2016, time flies between these updates! How have y'all been holding up? I recently returned from a Lion trip to Peru with **Daniela Lapidous, Daniel Schlosser SEAS'16** and Anastasia Anazonwu '15. We saw a lot of llamas and did a two-day hike to Machu Picchu.

Here are a few updates from classmates:

From **Leila Mgaloblishvili** and **Michael Purcell:** "A bunch of us (including **David Blackman, Eyvana Bengochea, Arthur Muszynski, Alexi Villatoro** and **Fabiola Urdaneta**) are now 2L at the Law School. Couldn't get enough of Morningside Heights! Feel free to reach out!"

From **Greg Rempe:** "I've been playing since graduation and moved back to New York last fall. I work at a software development company, where I fundraise and run operations for the start-ups it builds in the real estate space, among other things. A highlight from my time off was a trip down the Salmon River in Idaho. It was a week-long trip in the wilderness with **Caleb**

Fujimori SEAS'16, Maia Claman, Sophie Rothman BC'17, Samuel Reichman '15 and Jennifer Olson '17. We had high water, butterfly hatch, sun and a roaring good time. And we saw twin baby moose! If anyone here kayaks let me know and we'll go paddling! Skiing is cool, too."

From **Daniela Lapidous:** "Hey everyone! In a move that would surprise no one, I continued working for the climate movement after graduating. I lived in San Francisco near my family for around eight months and moved back to NYC to study social movements for a small nonprofit. I recently started a position helping generate more political will to pass a bill that would commit New York State to 100 percent renewable energy by 2050, creating thousands of clean energy jobs.

"In my spare time, I volunteer with Sunrise, a new movement of young people to get fossil fuel money out of our political system. In my truly spare time, I hang with many of my CC'16 friends, passing by The Hungarian Pastry Shop and saying 'oh my Godddd that was so long ago' and only watching Netflix shows about food and chefs."

From **Matthew Seife:** "After graduation I was living in New York, where I worked for Viacom in its corporate marketing and strategy division. I then moved to the Bay Area a couple of months later. Since then I have been working at Pixar Animation Studios as the assistant to the directors for the upcoming film *Coco*. This film celebrates Dia de los Muertos and the strong traditions of music in Mexico. Please check it out if you have time!"

From **Aram Balian:** "After graduation I tried my hand in investment banking but have now found myself in the start-up world. In my free time, I'm co-chair of outreach for Columbia College Young Alumni, play pickup soccer and enjoy the shows while living by Lincoln Center. Hit me up if you want to talk about FinTech or are interested in volunteering for CCYA."

Please write to me about your adventures! Did you move? Have you been keeping up with your suitemates?

2017

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
Merideth Kerby
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
212-851-7776

Development Contact
Erin Zyko Hussein
eez1@columbia.edu
212-851-7452

Carl Yin
carl.yin@columbia.edu

Vivian Chen and **MJ Engel** are in Harbin, China, with the Harbin Institute of Technology on a Critical Language Enhancement Award. Vivian says, "So far, the language program has been tough and we are still adjusting to life overseas, but we've made so many friends and our Chinese is improving tremendously. The food here is also delicious — we are eating so many dumplings and noodles, our favorites. :)"

Eitan J. Neugut works in consulting at McKinsey & Co. and lives in the East Village with his husband, Dylan J. Cooper-Neugut.



Left to right: Lily Liu-Krason '16, Anastasia Anazonwu '15, Daniela Lapidous '16 and Daniel Schlosser SEAS'16 traveled to Peru.



Vivian Chen '17 (left) and MJ Engel '17 in Harbin, China.

After traveling last summer, **Laney McGahey** moved back to San Francisco in August. She says she has enjoyed getting to know the Columbia crowd there!

Bianca Guerrero lives in Washington Heights with family and works for the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services, Herminia Palacio BC'83, as an urban fellow. She's working on the Puerto Rico response team, helping to send city resources, staff and volunteers to the island and creating infrastructure to help evacuees coming to NYC. Bianca is also working on child welfare projects related to the opioid crisis.

Outside of work, Bianca is getting back into hobbies that fell to the wayside in college, namely, writing short stories and essays and reading for leisure. She's also getting her feet wet with community organizing groups dedicated to housing and other issues that affect low-income New Yorkers in upper Manhattan.

Neha Nataraj is at Penn, pursuing a Ph.D. in immunology.

For **Ethan Wu,** life post-graduation has been the same, yet different. He writes, "There are no more unplanned hangouts or late-night JJ's runs, but we've kept up the board game nights and the climbing sessions, and the occasional alumni event (5–0, Lions!). The new climbing gym at the Manhattanville campus has been a boon as well, but comes with a feeling of slight bitterness as we see all that has come as we are leaving the Columbia community. Professional life has been enjoyably consistent — there is something to be said about doing the same things every day, entering the same mental states rather than revisiting the ideas of a class two times a week. White Plains is a burgeoning city and I am glad to be able to work there."

Simone Nguyen '13 competed on the 35th season of Survivor: Heroes vs. Healers vs. Hustlers.

Steve Fan is a consultant at Novantas and lives in Midtown East. He spent last summer at home in Taiwan and met up with a few CC'17 friends. He went to Iowa for the first time his second week of work.

Brenna Barker lives on the Lower East Side with her best friend (ever), Lauren O'Connor '16. She works at IBM and, according to her, it is "so so so much fun." Brenna also misses her cat dearly, and wishes she could pet him.

Happy New Year, CC'17! Send your news to carl.yin@columbia.edu.

obituaries

1944

Paul S. Sandhaus, writer, New York City and Santa Fe, N.M., on June 27, 2017. After the College, Sandhaus served in the Army as first lieutenant during WWII and was in Japan during its occupation. He was a gifted writer. A published novelist, Sandhaus' teleplays were produced during the early days of live television. He was an advertising executive at General Electric and J. Walter Thompson, and the owner and president of Paul Sandhaus Associates for more than 30 years. He got his pilot's license at 70. Sandhaus is survived by his wife of more than 70 years, Helen; son, Richard; and daughter, Ellen.

Albert L. Seligmann, retired Foreign Service officer, Alexandria, Va., on April 5, 2017. Born in New York City, Seligmann attended Townsend Harris H.S. After the College, he served in the Army as a Japanese Language Officer during the Occupation. He earned an M.A. in 1949 from SIPA and joined the State Department. Seligmann's assignments took him to Japan, Thailand and Germany, and he served as director of the Office of Japanese Affairs, counselor for Political Affairs in Tokyo, senior Asian affairs officer on the Policy Planning staff, executive director of the United States-Japan Advisory Commission and deputy director of the Defense Department's Office of Policy Planning and NSC Affairs. Following retirement, Seligmann became The Asia Foundation's representative in Japan. His deep knowledge and love of Japan fostered many exchanges and partnerships between the countries. The Japanese government honored him with the Order of the Rising Sun, one of the highest decorations bestowed on foreigners. Seligmann is survived by his wife, Bobbie; daughters, Susan, Linda, Ann and Wendy; seven grandchildren; and a great-grandson. Memorial contributions may be made to DACOR Bacon House Foundation, 1801 F St. N.W., Washington, DC 20006.

1949

Rodman B. Funston, retired advertising and executive recruitment executive, Tubac, Ariz., and New Preston, Conn., on August 1, 2017. Funston lived with his family in Scarsdale, N.Y., 1963–93, where his five children attended Scarsdale schools and he was active in community affairs. Funston was in the advertising and executive recruitment business in New York City for more than 40 years and served on numerous nonprofit boards. He was a decorated WWII pilot. Funston is survived by his wife, Sidney Reid Funston; sons, Rodman Jr., David and Reid; daughters, Meredith Funston and Courtenay Price-Gallagher; 12 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Lake Waramaug Task Force or the Lake Waramaug Association.

George R. Lenz, retired attorney and rare book dealer, Huntington, N.Y., on August 1, 2017. Lenz earned a degree in 1952 from the Law School. A WWII veteran, he had a distinguished career in law as a Wall Street partner, where he represented, among others, the old Bank of America. He was chosen a Fellow of the Bar, comprising the top 1 percent of all attorneys. In the mid-1970s, Lenz was alumni chair of the Columbia College Fund and



George R. Lenz '49

was very proud to be honored by Columbia for his work. The father of seven, including one Columbia graduate, he became a well-known rare-book collector and made that his second career in Huntington.

Chester A. "Chet" Nedwidek Jr., retired engineer, Pollocksville, N.C., on May 18, 2017. Nedwidek was born November 1, 1927, in Bayside, N.Y. He earned a B.A. from the College, followed in 1952 by a B.S. from Columbia Engineering and in 1992 by a master's in civil engineering from NC State. Nedwidek moved to Aiken, S.C., and his position at the Savannah River Plant was intermediate reactor department engineer. DuPont transferred him to Chattanooga, Tenn., where he was the senior engineer at the nylon plant. Nedwidek then moved to Cary, N.C., to work for Beaunit, and when it was sold he opened General Personnel. His last job before retirement was at the NCDOT, GIS Unit as assistant director. A WWII veteran, Nedwidek was a medic in the 20th Army Air Corps in Guam. His passion was woodworking, and he was a member of several Raleigh woodworking clubs. Nedwidek is survived by his sons, Chet III, John and his wife, Carolyn, and Michael "Ned" and his wife, Sheri; four grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Memorial contributions may be made to The Cary High School Marching Band, Cary Band Boosters, PO Box 91 Cary, NC 27512; St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 221 Union St., Cary, NC 27511; or Covenant House, 160 Mine Lake Ct., Ste 200, Raleigh, NC 27615.

1950

Dan Neuberger, retired research chemist, Rochester, N.Y., on January 23, 2017. Born in 1929 in the former Yugoslavia, Neuberger, his parents and brother immigrated to the United States in 1940. As an 11-year-old who spoke almost no English, Neuberger solo-navigated the 1939–40 New York World's Fair; it was one of his happiest childhood memories. Neuberger earned a Ph.D. in chemistry in 1953 from the University of Rochester, then served in the Army. He was a research chemist for Eastman Kodak from 1955 until retirement in 1986. Neuberger's passion for photography then blossomed: He saw wit, humor and beauty in his often offbeat subjects. He was a founding partner of Rochester's Image City Photography Gallery. Neuberger is survived by his wife, Isobel; and daughter Lisa and her husband, Cristian. He was predeceased by a brother and a daughter, Suzy.

Edwin W. Peters, retired insurance broker, Sarasota, Fla., on October 12, 2016. Peters was born in Youngstown, Ohio, to Edwin and Clara Peters. He served in the Air Force in WWII as a link trainer. At the College, Peters was on the debate team and participated in the Columbia-Oxford Debate. His working years were spent in New York, where he achieved the position of VP of a brokerage insurance firm specializing in foreign credit insurance. In 1989, he and his wife, Olga, retired to Sarasota, where Peters was on the board of Pelican Cove, was an active Democrat, and enjoyed playing bridge and traveling. He is survived by Olga, his wife of 66 years; brother, Lawrence; daughter, Marilyn; son, Ralph; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Memorial contributions may be made to Tidewell Hospice or Planned Parenthood.

1951

Harvey M. Krueger, attorney, financial executive, New York City, on April 23, 2017. Raised in Hackensack, N.J., Krueger was legendary in Israeli busi-

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 4th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

Ray Robinson '41, Magazine Editor, Gehrig Biographer

Ray Robinson '41, a longtime magazine editor who wrote biographies of sports stars from his youth, most notably Lou Gehrig '23, died on November 1, 2017, in New York City. He was 96.

Robinson was born in New York City on December 4, 1920, and graduated from DeWitt Clinton H.S. in the Bronx. Growing up, he watched the dominant Yankees teams of the 1920s and '30s, as well as the New York Giants and the Brooklyn Dodgers. Robinson first encountered Gehrig, one of his favorite players, after writing him to ask for an interview for his school newspaper. The interview did not work out, but Gehrig gave him tickets to a game.

Robinson studied for a time at the Law School before serving in the Army during WWII. He began writing for local newspapers while stationed at military bases in the southern United States, and after being discharged was an editor at various magazines such as *Seventeen* and *Good Housekeeping.* But baseball and other sports were his passion.

Robinson edited more than a dozen editions of *Baseball Stars,* annual collections of short biographical essays by burgeoning writers including Jimmy Breslin, Dick Schaap and George Vecsey. In recent years he was a regular at a monthly lunch with New York City sportswriters like Lawrence Ritter, Robert Creamer and Marty Appel, and broadcasters like Bob Costas.

Robinson's biographies include *Matty, an American Hero: Christy Mathewson of the New York Giants* (1993) and *Rockne of Notre Dame: The Making of a Football Legend* (1999). Of Robinson's sportswriting, *The New York Times* said in its obituary: " … [It] mixed careful research with personal recollections, [and] was more realistic than reverential." Appel, author of *Pinstripe Empire: The New York Yankees from Before the Babe to After the Boss* and other baseball books, said, also in the *Times,* "He could be trusted not to exaggerate a story or a fact; it was what it was, and you could trust Ray's memory."

In many articles and in the book *Iron Horse: Lou Gehrig in His Time* (1990), Robinson portrayed the humble and hard-working Gehrig as a human being instead of the mythical hero many see him as, without hiding his own admiration. Robinson was at Yankee Stadium on July 4, 1939, when Gehrig gave his famous "farewell" speech; Robinson called it "baseball's Gettysburg Address."

Robinson's other books include *American Original: A Life of Will Rogers* (1996) and *Famous Last Words* (2003), a collection of memorable deathbed statements. He also wrote articles for the *Times* about baseball players like Willie Mays, Jackie Robinson and Cal Ripken Jr., the Baltimore Orioles shortstop who broke Gehrig's consecutive game record, ending his own streak at 2,632. Robinson sent Ripken a copy of his Gehrig biography, but Ripken refused to read it until after he broke the record in 1995. When he did, he returned the book with an inscription: "It's safe to finally read." Reflecting on the episode, in 2007, Robinson wrote, "I cherish the autograph — and understand his superstition."

Robinson, a devoted alumnus as well as a longtime friend and



contributor to *CCT,* was predeceased in March 2017 by his wife, the former Phyllis Cumins, whom he married in 1948. He is survived by his children, Nancy Miringoff SW'76, Steve and Tad; their spouses; and four grandchildren. In recent years Robinson worked with the ALS Association to raise awareness of the disease. Memorial contributions may be made to the ALS Association, Greater New York Chapter, 42 Broadway, Ste 1724, New York, NY 10004; als.org.

— Lisa Palladino

ness circles and was the first banker to bring Israel to the international capital markets. A 1953 alumnus of the Law School, he was with Cravath, Swaine & Moore, then Kuhn, Loeb & Co., where he became CEO. Krueger later was a vice-chair of Lehman Brothers and most recently was a vice-chair of Barclays Capital. He was presented a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 1985. Krueger was an active board member and leader of numerous charitable and philanthropic organizations in the United States and Israel. After the passing of his son Peter of AIDS in 1988, Krueger and his wife, Constance Alexander Krueger, founded The Peter Krueger Center for Immunological Disorders at Mount Sinai/Beth Israel. Krueger was predeceased by his wife in November 2016 and is survived by his brother, Stuart, and his wife, Jill; sister-in-law, Pamela Schlenger; daughter Cathy Cohen and her husband David; daughter Liz Krueger and her husband, John Seley; daughter Abigail Bialer and her husband, Arthur; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to The Peter Krueger Center for Immunological Disorders (philanthropy.mountsinai.org/donate or 212-659-8500).

1952

Dennis C. Cronin, retired attorney, Killingworth, Conn., on June 19, 2017. Formerly of New York City, Cronin was born on June 21, 1930, in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., and attended Brooklyn Technical H.S. After the College, he served in the Army during the Korean War. Cronin earned a degree in 1957 from the Law School and had a long and productive legal career. Following law school, he joined the Justice Department in Washington, D.C., as part of the Honors Program. Cronin was recruited by the firm of Hahn, Loeser, in Cleveland, and he



Dennis C. Cronin '52

spent several years there. In 1965, he returned to NYC to join the firm of Reavis & McGrath, working in civil litigation. In 1975, Cronin joined Wertheim & Co. In 1998, he retired as legal/compliance counsel. In retirement, Cronin was an arbitrator for the Financial Industries Regulatory Authority. He had a lifelong love of boating, the sea, fine food, art, music and nature. Cronin was an avid reader of nonfiction and was a rock for his family. Memorial contributions may be made to Connecticut Hospice in Branford or the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

A. Thomas Houghton, retired educator, Manahawkin, N.J., on May 1, 2017. Houghton was born on July 16, 1931, in Mount Kisco, N.Y. After moving to Harvey Cedars, N.J., in 1939, he attended the one-room schoolhouse in Barnegat City for grades 4 and 5, and graduated from Barnegat H.S. After Columbia, Houghton served as an officer in the Navy amphibs 1952–57. He began his career with Connecticut General in Bloomfield, Conn., before returning to Harvey Cedars in 1961. Houghton and his family operated Houghton's Rowboats and Clam Bar on 83rd Street for 25 years. He also taught school in Lacey Township for 27 years, until retiring in 1987. Houghton was active in the Exchange Club of Beach Haven and

the Harvey Cedars Zoning Board, and was a Little League Baseball coach. He and his wife of 63 years, Joy Pflueger Houghton, enjoyed travel and spent winters in Deerfield Beach, Fla., for more than 20 years. Houghton is survived by his wife; son Richard and his wife, Elizabeth, son Timothy and his wife, Michele, daughter Holly Gallagher and her husband, Tim, and son Eric and his wife, Carol; 13 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Meridian Hospice South (Manahawkin, N.J.) or Grace Calvary Chapel (Ship Bottom, N.J.).

1953

Frank McCauley Jr., retired financial executive, Vero Beach, Fla., and Surry, Maine, on March 20, 2017. McCauley was born on June 22, 1931, in Brooklyn, N.Y., and was a longtime winter resident of Vero Beach. He was a graduate of Carson Long Military Academy in New Bloomfield, Pa., and in 1954 earned an M.S. from the Business School. McCauley was a veteran of the Korean War, having served in the Army. He was VP for 25 years at Chemical Bank (later JPMorgan Chase). McCauley was a member of the New York Yacht Club and Narrasketuck Yacht Club, Amityville, N.Y. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Jean B.; nephews, John and Todd; niece, Deborah; and their families. Memorial contributions may be made to VNA/Hospice Foundation, 1110 35th Ln., Vero Beach, FL 32960.

1957

Joseph Feldschuh, physician and inventor, Bronx, N.Y., on January 31, 2017. After his family left Nazi-occupied Austria for Brooklyn, N.Y., Feldschuh became a Westinghouse Science Talent Search finalist and received a Regents Scholarship to Columbia, where he lettered in football and was captivated by Shakespeare. He earned an M.D. in 1961 from NYU and obtained board certification in both cardiology and endocrinology, always rising to meet the challenge of treating the most complicated medical cases. He raised a family with his then-wife, Roxanne BC'62, whom he met at a Columbia/



Joseph Feldschuh '57

Barnard soirée when he cut in on her dance with Art Garfunkel '65. As a father to sons Jonathan, Stephen and Michael '91, Feldschuh emphasized the importance of education and innovative thinking. He led by example: In the 1960s, he worked alongside Nobel Prize winner André F. Cournand to develop a blood-volume analyzer — a device that has since been used in treating more than 40,000 patients. His legacy also lives on through his fertility research, which resulted in more than 20,000 births. Feldschuh left an indelible mark not only on the future of medicine, but also on the hearts of all those he enlightened with his passion, brilliance and enduring spirit.

Stephen S. Fybish, weather historian and teacher, New York City, on August 30, 2017. Fybish was a devoted alumnus; at his 60th reunion, held last June, he led attendees at the class dinner in song, selecting *Sans Souci.* He is survived by his brother, Ira; stepdaughters, Emily Prager and Nora Elcar-Verdon; and numerous other relatives and friends.

William R. Schwartzman, retired physician, San Francisco, on April 25, 2017. In 1961, Schwartzman earned an M.D. from P&S. He fell in love with San Francisco on a visit in summer 1955 and in 1960 he married and then relocated there. Schwartzman was dedicated to the medical profession, psychiatry and helping people. He worked throughout the Bay Area, including at Langley Porter Psychiatric Hospital and Clinics (UCSF), San Francisco General Hospital, Mount Zion Hospital and Napa State Hospital. From the mid-1980s until he retired, Schwartzman turned his professional talents to working on behalf of the disadvan-

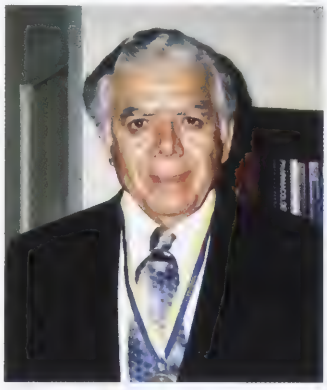


William R. Schwartzman '57

taged in community clinics. He was a gifted pianist and could be found regularly at the opera, symphony or at the latest Broadway hit. Other hobbies included backgammon, chess, stamp collecting, book collecting, poetry and tennis. Schwartzman enjoyed living life in the company of other people, telling jokes and sharing stories. He had strong opinions and was a passionate crusader for improvements within the mental health system or against unfair immigration policies. Schwartzman is survived by, among others, his daughters Karen and Tamsen.

1958

Esmail Koushanpour, emeritus professor, Mundelein, Ill., on February 12, 2017. Born in Tehran, Iran, on June 9, 1934, Koushanpour was an emeritus professor at Northwestern University Medical School, where he worked for 36 years in the Department of Physiology. He authored two editions of a textbook on renal physiology and many scientific papers, with particular interest in mathematical simulation of physiological systems. He retired in 1999. A leader



Esmail Koushanpour '58

in the Chicago Muslim community, Koushanpour was active in POWER, an interfaith coalition of diverse community groups. He was on the Board of Directors of several organizations, including Gilead Sciences, which worked with the State of Illinois to establish the KidCare program, extending access to health care for thousands of low-income people in Illinois. An outspoken advocate of social justice, Koushanpour received an honorary degree from the Graduate Theological Foundation. Memorial contributions may be made to the Islamic Foundation North (Libertyville, Ill.), the Graduate Theological Foundation (Mishawaka, Ind.), or the American Physiological Society.

1959

D. Patrick Mullins, insurance executive, Bumpass, Va., on May 28, 2017. Mullins was an active community and business leader. He was one of the leading Equine Insurance executives in America after having



D. Patrick Mullins '59

built his own business, which was acquired by one of the largest insurance companies in America. Mullins was a sports reporter during his time at Columbia, becoming *Spectator*'s sports editor in his senior year. He moved to Washington, D.C., after college, married and had four children. During his professional career, Mullins was also heavily involved in the community, serving as president of many local organizations, including Fairfax County Council of PTAs, Annandale-North Springfield Little League, Turnpike Basketball Club and Annandale Rotary Club, and was a district governor of Rotary. Mullins served as chair of the Virginia Republican Party 2009–14.

1960

Carlos E. Otálvaro, retired investment banker, Miami, Fla., on August 18, 2017. Otálvaro was born in Bogotá, Colombia, on March 30, 1940. A 1961 alumnus of the Business School, he pioneered the online trading industry in the early '90s with



Carlos E. Otálvaro '60

the establishment of the trading platform WallStreet*E. The firm went on to be recognized by *Barron's* and *The Wall Street Journal* as one of the leading platforms for 11 consecutive years in their annual reviews of "Best Online Brokers." While at Columbia, Otálvaro was on the wrestling team, was president of his class and led a Latin-American band he started, Carlos Ota: Columbia Lions. He pursued graduate studies at the Menéndez Pelayo International University in Santander, Spain. Otálvaro then moved to Madrid where he met his wife, Sonia. They started their family of six in Spain and eventually relocated to the United States. In Miami, Otálvaro worked for firms such as Bear Stearns and Shearson Lehman Brothers, using his expertise in Latin-American markets, before starting his own firms. In the 1990s, he and his wife began Vintage Rolls Royce Limousines of Coral Gables, a luxury transportation company based in their city of residence. Otálvaro is survived by his wife; children, Carlos, Noe, Francisco, Antonio, Nena and Gigi; six sons- and daughters-in-law; and 13 grandchildren.

1961

John H. Cleveland III, retired attorney, Sackets Harbor, N.Y., on June 1, 2017. Educated at Watertown City schools, Cleveland earned a J.D. in 1963 from the Law School. He was an Army veteran, serving during the Korean War. Cleveland began practice as a maritime lawyer in 1963 with Haight, Gardner, Poor & Havens in New York City. Upon retiring from the practice of admiralty law in 1997, he returned to Sackets Harbor. An attorney by trade, but a musician by love, Cleveland organized the Sackets Harbor Jazz Festival. He was a former board member of North Country Library System and was on the new building committee of Hay Memorial Library. As a past president of the Sackets Harbor Historical Society, Cleveland was a supporter of Concerts on the Waterfront and historic architectural preservation. With family and those who knew him well, he was known as a generous host and a world traveler who loved to share stories and share a meal. Cleveland is survived by his wife of 44 years, Margaret Harris Cleveland; their son, Thacher; his daughters from his first marriage: Erika Cleveland Marks, Britta Cleveland and Ingrid Cleveland Gori; six grandchildren; and two sisters.

Andrew S. Levine, engineer, Stockbridge, Mass., and Bonita Springs, Fla., on July 19, 2017. Levine earned a degree in 1962 from Columbia Engineering, in the 3-2 program. He was elected to Junior Phi Beta Kappa at the College and went to MIT, from which he earned a master's, and Northeastern, from which he earned a Ph.D.; both degrees were in mechanical engineering. Levine worked for Raytheon and MIT Draper Laboratory in Boston, where he and his wife, Toby, lived 1964–78, and for SAIC, The Aerospace Corp., Grumman and HP in the Washington, D.C., area after 1978. The family lived in Potomac, Md., 1978–2001, after which they moved to the Berkshires. Levine loved classical music and enjoyed many concerts at Tanglewood. He and his wife participated in the Tanglewood Music Center Fellows Lunch program for more than 10 years. Levine was also a passionate believer in social action; he was an active member of Hevreh of Southern Berkshire, for which he was treasurer and chairman of the Finance Committee for many years. He is survived by his wife of 53 years; daughters, Amy Levine, and Caren Pelletier and her husband, Michael; one grandson; and a sister.

Theodore H. Stanley, anesthesiologist and medical entrepreneur, Salt Lake City, Utah, on July 13, 2017. Stanley was born on February 4, 1940, in New York City. He earned a bachelor's in zoology, chemistry and music from the College and in 1965 earned a degree from P&S. Studying under a fellowship at the University of Utah, Stanley planned to become a cardiac surgeon but added anesthesiology as a specialty. He served in the Air Force at the medical center of Lackland AFB in San Antonio and then joined the University of Utah faculty in 1972, becoming a professor of surgical research and director of research at the university's School of Medicine. There, Stanley was a member of the team that in 1982 implanted the first permanent artificial heart in a human. He later became managing director of UpStart Ventures. Stanley wrote or contributed to scores of books and was frequently published in medical journals. He is best known for, with colleague Brian I. Hague, creating in 1983 the fentanyl lollipop, a palatable means of delivering a synthetic opioid analgesic, mostly to cancer patients, but also to relieve migraine and cluster headaches, severe back and bone pain, arthritis and other chronic conditions. It was approved by federal regulators in 1998 to treat cancer pain under the name Actiq.

1969

Barry A. Hamilton, retired judge, Rockville, Md., on May 24, 2017. Born on September 23, 1947, in Hagerstown, Md., Hamilton graduated from the McDonogh School and after the College earned a J.D. from NYU. He played saxophone in the United States Army Band during the Vietnam War. Hamilton was a prosecutor in the Montgomery County (Md.) State's Attorneys Office for 20 years before serving as a judge in the District Court for Montgomery County until his retirement in April 2017. Hamilton had a passion for musical theater and cherished his time directing and playing the piano for numerous organizations throughout the Washington, D.C., area as well as for the Broadway Artists Alliance in New York City. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Diane; daughter, Erica and her husband, Nathan Hilburger; son, Brett; and two grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Montgomery's Miracles, c/o Jenna Dempsey Davis, Drug Court Coordinator, 50 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.

1983

Richard D. Shin, physician, Burr Ridge, Ill., on March 13, 2017. Shin went to the NYU School of Medicine and was a busy hand surgeon in private practice. He was affiliated with several hospitals in the Chicago area, including Rush University Medical Center. Shin is survived by his wife, Nora; children, Kyler, Kiana and Kedrick; brother, Tom '84; sister, Linda BC'86; and his parents.

1999

James M. Stephenson, humanitarian aid worker, Danville, Calif., on July 25, 2017. Stephenson earned a degree in 2007 from SIPA. As a career humanitarian aid worker, he worked for the International Rescue Committee, Save the Children, and International Relief and Development, which assigned him to Baghdad's "Red Zone." There he worked to increase employment and political stability by helping ordinary Iraqis develop businesses. After his service in Iraq, Stephenson moved on to Mercy Corps in Sri Lanka, where he pursued economic development programs as the nation concluded its long civil war. He was instrumental in gaining the release of 300,000 Tamil civilians from POW camps and securing their return to farms and fields cleared of mines. Stephenson's last employer was Danish Demining Group. Based in Nairobi, Kenya, but largely working in Somaliland, he designed programs to reduce armed violence among and within Somali clans. After successfully establishing a model for local government structures for nonviolent dispute resolution, he adapted this model to address similar challenges in South Sudan, Tunisia, Mali and Nigeria. At the time of his death, Stephenson was preparing to leave for a new assignment in Northern Nigeria.

— Lisa Palladino

the*last* word

A Snowball's Chance

Tim Towler '77 is reunited with his College class ring two decades after it went missing. Here, he tells his story to CCT.

"In 1995, I took a position with Appleton Papers, so my family and I moved from California to Appleton, Wis.; it was a definite change in weather! One day in winter 1996 or 1997 we had a heavy snowfall. I came home from work and saw that my son and the neighborhood kids were having a really massive snowball fight — I wasn't paying much attention until I got out of the car and everyone turned their attention to me. They were lobbing snowballs at me left, right and sideways, so I had to return the favor.

"The battle lasted for 10 or 15 minutes, up and down throughout the apartment complex, until finally I had to go into the house. I grabbed my briefcase, headed inside, looked down at my right hand and said, 'Oh no.' Somehow in the course of throwing snowballs, my College class ring fell off. It was still light out, so all the kids organized a search party, but with no success.

"When the spring thaw came, we combed over the entire area, but found nothing; it was gone. I thought about replacing it, but the price had gone up dramatically since I bought mine in 1977. I always thought, 'One of these days I'll replace it,' but 'one of these days' never came.

"Years went by and then, in the Spring 2017 issue of *Columbia College Today,* I was looking through the Class Notes — because the first thing I do is turn to my class column — and I saw a note at the top of the page that there was a class mystery. At first I just thought, 'Oh, that's interesting,' but when I saw that it was about a class ring found in Appleton, Wis., I just about lost it. I emailed *CCT* immediately and then I emailed the gentleman in Wisconsin who had contacted the Alumni Office. He told me that his father had found the ring and wanted to give it back to the rightful owner. His father had succumbed to cancer, but the son wanted to find the owner. That was a special man and I really appreciate his dedication and follow-up.

"When I got the ring back, I had to get it rounded out, as it had a bit of a dent in it. But it still fit and otherwise looked good: white gold, blue stone, crown, lion on one side, *Alma Mater* on the other and '77 under *Alma*; it's the original I got in my senior year. I'm surprised that it was buried all that time and yet looked the same as when it flew off my finger that day, including the chip in the stone that had been there before I lost it.

"It was so exciting that after 20-plus years, I had it back; I never thought I'd be reunited with that ring."



ALYSSA CARVARA

CCT ONLINE

GET THE LATEST

college.columbia.edu/cct

CCT | Columbia College Today

Columbia University
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 724
Burl. VT 05401

Make your way back to Morningside Heights for

REUNION 2018

THURSDAY, MAY 31 – SATURDAY, JUNE 2

If your class year ends in 3 or 8, mark your calendars for **Reunion 2018**, an opportunity to revisit campus, reunite with friends and classmates, and to reflect on your college experience.

Add your name to the list of classmates who've already pledged to attend!

college.columbia.edu/alumni/reunion2018



CCT

Columbia College Today

Spring 2018

FEELIN' GROOVY
ART GARFUNKEL '65 LOOKS BACK ON HIS LIFE IN MUSIC

JENNIFER ASHTON '91
TV'S "DR. JEN" ADVOCATES FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH

COMIC RELIEF
WRITER GABE LIEDMAN '04 HAS MADE "FUNNY" HIS BUSINESS



50 YEARS LATER
UNPACKING THE COMPLICATED HISTORY OF SPRING '68

CORE TO
COMMENCEMENT
COLUMBIA COLLEGE



LEON WU CC'20

"One's college years are often viewed as a springboard for the future.

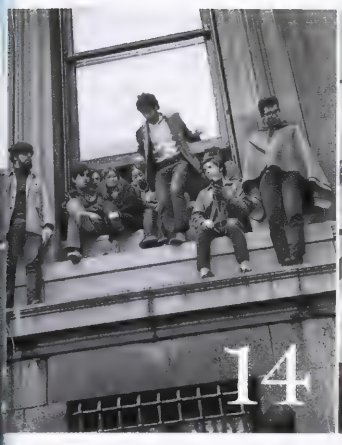
Help Columbia College reach its greatest potential in shaping the lives of thousands who will go on to change our world in ways we cannot yet see or even imagine."

– Dean James J. Valentini

Learn more about ways to support our efforts:

college.columbia.edu/campaign

Contents







features

14

50 Years Later

Half a century has passed since the Spring '68 student uprising. *CCT* looks at what happened then, and how the protests can help us understand our world right now.

By Jamie Katz '72, BUS'80 and Paul Starr '70

24

Just What the Doctor Ordered

GMA's Dr. Jennifer Ashton '91, PS'00, HN'16 is on a mission to demystify women's health.

By Atossa Araxia Abrahamian '08, JRN'11

28

Funny Business

Comedian Gabe Liedman '04 lays it all on the (writers') table.

By Phil Wallace '04

Cover: Photograph by David Finck '70

CCT | Columbia College Today

VOLUME 45 NUMBER 3
SPRING 2018

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Alexis Boncy SOA'11

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Lisa Palladino

DEPUTY EDITOR
Jill C. Shomer

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09

FORUM EDITOR
Rose Kernochan BC'82

ART DIRECTOR
Eson Chan

Published quarterly by the Columbia College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development for alumni, students, faculty, parents and friends of Columbia College.

ASSOCIATE DEAN, COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS
Bernice Tsai '96

ADDRESS
Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 4th Fl.
New York, NY 10025

PHONE
212-851-7852

EMAIL
cct@columbia.edu

WEB
college.columbia.edu/cct

ISSN 0572-7820

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not reflect official positions of Columbia College or Columbia University.

© 2018 Columbia College Today
All rights reserved.

FSC www.fsc.org MIX Paper from responsible sources FSC® C022085

Contents

departments

3 Letters to the Editor

4 The Big Picture

6 Message from Dean James J. Valentini
The Core Curriculum gives students the foundation to become active citizens of the world.

7 Around the Quads
Alumni donors and student recipients meet and mingle at the annual Dean's Scholarship Reception.

12 Roar, Lion, Roar
Men's squash and women's fencing win Ivy League championships; Camille Zimmerman '18 is Lions basketball's leading scorer of all time.

32 Columbia Forum: *What Is It All but Luminous: Notes from an Underground Man* by Art Garfunkel '65
The singer who shaped a generation looks back on his life before and after Paul Simon.

alumninews

37 Message from CCAA President Michael Behringer '89
Celebrating "The Photo" and the glories of spring on campus.

38 Bookshelf
Happiness Is a Choice You Make: Lessons from a Year Among the Oldest Old, by John Leland '81.

40 Lions
Tom Meyers '97, Ebele Ifedigbo '10 and Emily Broad Leib '03, plus other alumni newsmakers.

44 Class Notes
Just Married!

88 Obituaries

90 The Last Word
Two friends from the Class of 1943 chat about the old days, ahead of their 75th reunion.

Now on CCT Online

PRINT EXTRAS

- 2018 John Jay Awards Dinner Facebook album
- Gabe Liedman '04 reminisces about Rififi comedy club
- A special Bowery Boys podcast from Tom Meyers '97
- The short film *Expired*, featuring Emily Broad Leib '03

Like Columbia College Alumni
facebook.com/alumnicc

View Columbia College Alumni photos
instagram.com/alumniofcolumbiacollege

Follow **@Columbia_CCAA**

Join the Columbia College Alumni network
college.columbia.edu/alumni/linkedin

THE LATEST

LIKE MINDS | MAR. 20

"When I went to Mississippi in 1965 with two black lawyer friends [to fight for voting rights], we made an agreement: We were not going to get beaten up, we were not going to be imprisoned and we were going to do the best we could, recognizing that maybe we couldn't do anything at all."

— Social justice advocate **Robert Gnaizda '57**

TAKE FIVE | FEB. 2

"I wanted to go to Columbia so badly that from the time I submitted my early decision application to when I found out that I had been accepted I wore the same Columbia sweatshirt to bed every night and refused to wash it."

— Contemporary art specialist **Meredith Kirk '12**

college.columbia.edu/cct

Let's Hear the Women Roar



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

The women's cross country team celebrating its first Ivy Heps title in more than a decade.

As parents of a first-year, we have enjoyed reading your comprehensive magazine covering athletics, guest speakers and special events on campus, and alumni news and publications. In the Winter 2017–18 issue, we particularly enjoyed the exceptional articles "Under Pressure," "The Work of Art" and "Oceanographer Juliette Finzi Hart '96 Shows the (Virtual) Reality of Climate Change." We were also amused by the "A Snowball's Chance" story. It is truly a broad and outstanding publication.

The two-page photo spread of the football team at the front of the magazine was colorful, full of spirit and captured the sensationalism of the team's victory that day. The subsequent article about the team [in "Roar, Lion, Roar," "Football's Remarkable Reversal"], which ran a full page plus a quarter-page, certainly celebrated the much-deserved accomplishments of their season.

Why, though, would the women's cross country team photo be the smallest of all the ones to accompany your sports articles? Their accomplishment was the first time that team won the Ivy League Heptagonal Championships since 2005! The first title in 12 years! That is very big sports news indeed, and yet the photo is so small you can barely see the girls' faces. It was the only photo of female athletes and even smaller than that of the men's basketball team 50 years ago. Even the individual photos of male athletes were larger than the one of this highly accomplished women's team.

Kindly give the female student athletes the same coverage that you do for the men. They are all Lions and we applaud them all.

Names withheld

Remembering All the Champions

Alex Sachare '71's "That Championship Season" [Winter 2017–18, "Roar, Lion, Roar"] refers to the successful 1967–68 basketball team. That team had a 25–5 record, won games in the NCAA tournament before losing to Davidson in the second round and won the Ivy League championship in a playoff with Princeton.

Sachare says it was the first Columbia team to win the Ivy League championship. I assume he comes to this conclusion because the name "Ivy League" was used by the league after Brown joined the then-seven team Eastern Intercollegiate Basketball League, which was referred to in the press as the "Ivy League." The EIBL consisted of Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton and Yale, seven teams that played home and away for a total of 12 league games. In the 1950–51 season — which I was part of — we played 12 league games and Brown one game (which was not considered a league game). After Brown joined the league, each team played 14 league games.

The 1967–68 Columbia basketball team was a great team with great players. But the title of the article makes the reader believe, if they are not otherwise informed, that 1967–68 was as far as championship basketball has gone for Columbia. At the end of the 1950–51 season the team had won 22 games without a loss. At the end of the 1949–50 season the team had won nine consecutive games for a 31-game winning streak. The article does not anywhere mention that team even though it, too, is in the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame.

The ranks of the 1950–51 team have dwindled. Of the seven who played the most, John Azary '51; Jack Molinas '53; Bob Reiss '51, PS'59; Bob Sullivan SEAS'51, SEAS'52; and Alan Stein '52 have left us. Tom Powers '51 is still with us.

Frank Lewis '51, LAW'53
Goodyear, Ariz.

Class Notes

I always enjoy reading the Class Notes and seeing what my classmates are up to. One of them is Barack Obama '83 (so we are generally well informed on him), but it is really good to catch up on the others!

Bill Schultz '83
Atlanta

Contact Us

CCT welcomes letters from readers about articles in the magazine but cannot print or personally respond to all letters received. Letters express the views of the writers and not *CCT*, the College or the University. Please keep letters to 250 words or fewer. All letters are subject to editing for space, clarity and *CCT* style. Please direct letters for publication "to the editor" via mail or online: **college.columbia.edu/cct/contact-us.**

AND THE JOHN JAY AWARDS GO TO ...

Congratulations to the 2018 John Jay recipients: Los Angeles Mayor **Eric Garcetti '92, SIPA'93;** *PBS NewsHour* Executive Producer and WETA SVP **Sara Just '88;** NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment Commissioner **Julie Jacobs Menin '89;** CEO of Morgan Stanley International Plc., Head of Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and Head of Technology **Robert P. Rooney '89;** and four-time Tony Award-winning Producer and Actor **Ron Simons '82, BUS'89** (at podium).

BRUCE GILBERT



Message from the Dean

A Life of Citizenship and Engagement

Every year, I share the U.N.'s Universal Declaration of Human Rights on my Facebook page. Created in 1948 and agreed upon by more than 50 nations at that time, the 30-article resolution states, among other things, "Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world." The declaration was never designed to be all-encompassing, and was not unanimously embraced, but I've always felt compelled by the concepts it seeks to convey.

Here at Columbia College, the relationship of the individual to society, rights, responsibilities and justice lies at the heart of the Core Curriculum. Whether through Contemporary Civilization or another Core course, our students explore the concept of civic and individual responsibility by engaging with faculty and one another to prepare for a life of citizenship. And that learning goes beyond the classroom: We want our community to "live the Core," using these understandings to prepare for a life of emotional and intellectual integrity, of self-examination and of critical engagement with society at large.

For nearly 100 years, the Core has served as more than just the cornerstone of our undergraduate curriculum — it has given our students a foundation in how to become active citizens of the world. That will never change. In fact, one of our goals with Core to Commencement, the campaign we created to build the greatest undergraduate experience, is to secure this vital program, ensuring its longevity for many years to come.

We are evolving in other ways, too. The Holder Initiative for Civil and Political Rights, launched last fall, builds on knowledge from the Core and extends those themes into a contemporary context. This semester, Executive Director Bernard E. Harcourt, the Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law and professor of political science, is teaching a new capstone course, "Power, Rights, and Social Change: Advancing Justice," as well as hosting a five-part series on the state of voting in the United States today.

The series, "The American Voter Project," will bring together scholars, politicians, journalists, activists, artists, students and community members to discuss the pressing challenge of American voting, concluding with the panel "State of One Person One Vote." The series includes discussions on the impact and future of the Electoral College, the problem of voter suppression, the 2020 Census and redistricting, and hacking digital elections. Discouraging retreat into what former U.S. Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr.'73, LAW'76 calls "the quiet prejudice of inaction," these programs create a deeper understanding about the power of ethics, morals, responsibility and honor.



MICHAEL EDMONSON '20

Valentini greets new Lions at Transfer Student Orientation.

Columbia College students are on a lifelong journey to embody these values, and while at the College they will gain knowledge, skills, abilities, perspectives and awareness to propel them forward. By the time they reach Commencement, and join you as alumni, they will be prepared for a life of citizenship — one that we hope builds a brighter future for everyone.



James J. Valentini
Dean



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL DIVITO

Donors and Recipients Meet and Greet at Dean's Scholarship Reception

Almost 350 scholarship donors and student recipients gathered in Alfred Lerner Hall's Roone Arledge Auditorium on February 8 for the Dean's Scholarship Reception, an annual event where the two groups meet and discuss their College experiences. Donors learn about student life at the College today, while recipients have the opportunity to thank those who helped make their education possible.



Speakers, along with Dean James J. Valentini, were Sherri P. Wolf '90 and Douglas R. Wolf '88, who established the Wolf Family Scholarship Fund in 2011. The evening's student speaker was Daphne J. Chow, the Wolfs' recipient since 2015.

Enjoying the event were, at left, Kevin Matthews '80, representing the Black Alumni Council Scholarship Fund, and Camille Sanches '18, one of its three recipients. Above, several donors mingled with recipients: standing, left to right, Andrew Ford '21, recipient of the Grace and James Dignan Family Scholarship Fund; Brian C. Krisberg '81, LAW'84, representing The Krisberg Family Scholarship (with recipient Isabel Sepulveda '21 seated, third from left); Roger Lehecka '67, GSAS'74, representing the Wallace Taylor Memorial Scholarship Fund; and guest Elliot Cafritz '82. Seated, far left, is Anmolpreet Kandola '19, a recipient of the Morris A. and Alma B. C. Schapiro Scholarship Fund; second from left, Lehecka's wife, Ria Coyne BC'84; and far right, Maria Avila-Franklin '21, recipient of The Bethill Family Scholarship Fund.

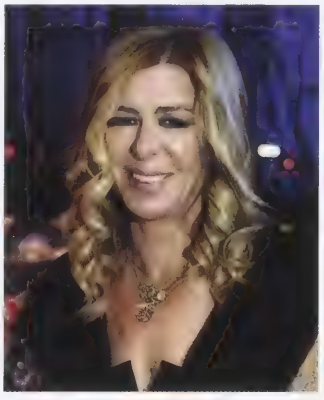
Learn more about the speakers and view the list of donors and recipients: college.columbia.edu/namedscholarships.

Gardner, Auster To Headline Upcoming Events

Dede Gardner '90 and Paul Auster '69, GSAS'70 will be the keynote speakers for Class Day 2018 and Reunion 2018, respectively. Gardner is the co-president of Plan B Entertainment, a production company owned by Brad Pitt. She is the first female producer to win two Best Picture Academy Awards, for *Moonlight* in 2017 and *12 Years a Slave* in 2014. Gardner, who graduated cum laude with a degree in English, was presented a John Jay Award in 2012.

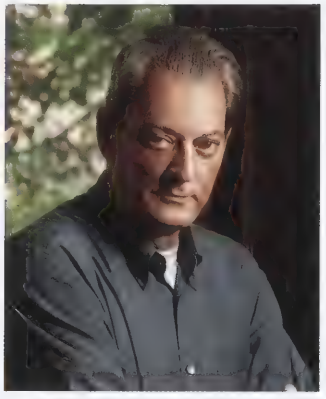
In an October 2016 interview with *Indiewire*, she described how Plan B discovers the bold films it produces: "Our instincts feel the same as they always have — what stories do we want to tell and with whom do we want to tell them?" she says. "We love filmmakers, we love directors, we love writers. And we certainly love movies that ask questions and make people think and ask questions to themselves."

Auster's most recent novel, *4321*, was nominated for a Man Booker Prize; his latest non-fiction book, *A Life in Words*, was published last fall. *4321* includes passages about Columbia, and he wrote an op-ed about being at the College in Spring 1968, "The Accidental Rebel," for *The New York Times* in 2008. In that piece, he remembers himself this way: "I see myself as a quiet, bookish young man, struggling to teach myself how to become a writer, immersed in my courses in literature and philosophy at Columbia … I wanted to read my books, write my poems and drink with my friends at the West End bar."



EILEEN BARROSO

Dede Gardner '90



JORG MEYER

Paul Auster '69, GSAS'70

Class Day is Tuesday, May 15, and Reunion 2018 is Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2.



DAVID DINI SIPA'14

DidYouKnow?

Who's on the Butler Frieze?

Despite including Core Curriculum constants like Plato, Dante, Homer and Shakespeare, the names inscribed on Butler Library's exterior weren't chosen because of the writers' and thinkers' presence in the College's required reading. University President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882), for whom the library was renamed in 1946, oversaw the building's design and chose the 18 names out of personal interest. In fact, Butler Library, which was constructed between 1931 and 1934, predates Literature Humanities, which began in 1937.

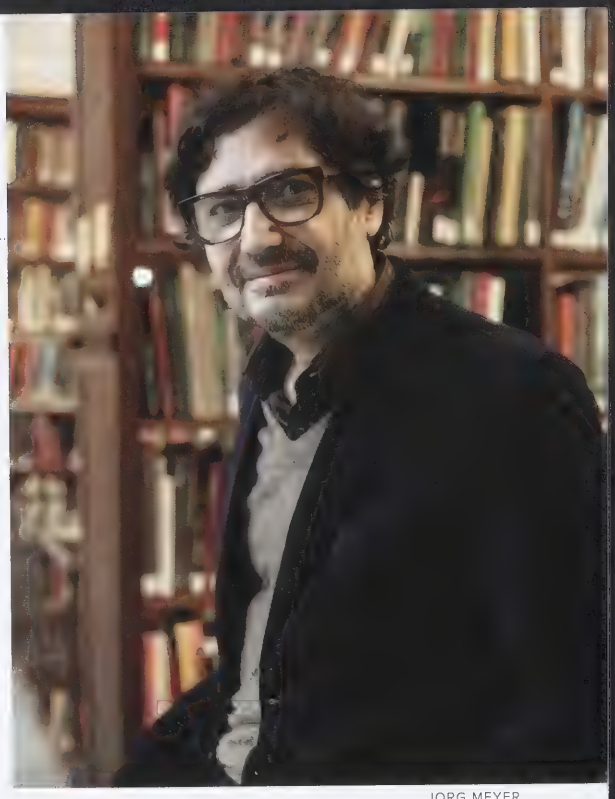
SUPPORT CCT!

Columbia College Today has always been *your* magazine — the place to read about the incredible achievements and remarkable stories of College alumni, faculty and students. Please consider visiting college.columbia.edu/cct/giving to make a tax-deductible contribution.



the Essentials

Avinoam Shalem



JORG MEYER

Avinoam Shalem, the Riggio Professor of the History of the Arts of Islam, speaks several languages and has an academic career that spans three continents, so it's no surprise to learn he is particularly interested in expression and connectivity. Shalem, who joined the faculty in fall 2013, teaches art history with an emphasis on "interaction zones" — spaces where people of different cultures mingle, exchange ideas and create something new. His undergraduate class, "Arts of Islam: The First Formative Centuries," is part of the Global Core curriculum. Shalem, the author and editor of 10 books, spoke to *CCT* about growing up in Israel, the pleasures of one-on-one conversation and the fluidity of art.

FOR SHALEM, a defining feature of art history is considering not only where a work is made, but also in what specific moment. The first question might refer to heritage and traditions, but the second deals with response and reaction. He feels the same about his own history: Shalem was born in Haifa, "at a time when the nation was trying to amalgamate people from all over the world to give them one specific identity," he says. "That was definitely something I grew up with — the schools I went to were trying to format us as Israelis. As a child I would go to the beach and wonder what was beyond the horizon, but everyone was telling me that all the roads end here."

ART WAS ALWAYS part of Shalem's life; his father started his career as a painter before becoming an architect, and Shalem used to study the Great Masters for homework. "I knew the masterpieces of art history almost by heart at a young age," he says.

SHALEM STUDIED art history at the University of Tel Aviv. "I wanted to study modern art, but the professor for medieval art was fabulous, and so I found myself attracted to that," he says. He took his first trip to Cairo in the early 1980s, and the city cast a spell on him. "I fell in love with that part of the world, and I decided if I was going to study medieval art it would be Islam."

IN 1988, HE DECIDED to leave Israel and study for his M.A. in Germany. "The political situation after the Lebanon war was miserable, and I had to get out of that space," Shalem says. After completing his studies at the University of Munich, he moved to Scotland and earned a Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh in 1995.

AFTER TEACHING in Edinburgh and working in London with the Khalili Collections (which include the most comprehensive private collection of Islamic art in Europe), Shalem returned to Germany and became an assistant professor at his Munich alma mater. In 2002, he received a full professorship and taught there until he came to the College. Shalem was an Andrew Mellon Senior Fellow at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 2006, Guest Scholar at the Getty Research Center in Los Angeles in 2009, and a guest professor at JN University in New Delhi in 2011 and at the Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, Mass., in 2016.

AS A PROFESSOR, Shalem aims to challenge his students' curiosity. "I like to bring students together in discussion about a work of art so that they will start to see different views of the same object," he says. "Then we try to explain why we see it so differently from different positions." "Art is changing in any moment," he continues. "It can be put on a pedestal and praised, then another day be taken down. It's not stable. You can't fix or freeze a work of art. It's a living thing."

SHALEM SAYS he most enjoys the one-on-one conversations: "That moment when you try to get into the thread of your student's thinking and see how it moves. It's a kind of cognitive pleasure — when it goes well, you are really traveling in minds." He also travels with his students in the literal sense: As part of the travel seminar in art history, Shalem has taken undergraduates on study trips to Jerusalem and Amman. Students apply for the program, in which they take part in a seminar on campus, then travel for a week to the area they are studying. "It's an amazing experience," he says. "When [the students] come back, you see how their project plans may have changed after they've actually confronted the space."

HE IS WORKING ON a book that looks at rural landscapes of Palestine after 1947 and how political trauma left traces on the way these areas developed. "How did new cities speak to the ruined spaces?" he asks. Though studying landscapes seems like a different discipline than art history, Shalem says you can consider a site as you would an object. "You can trace the history of an object *on* the object — for example, how the handle of a jug is worn in certain places — and it's the same with a landscape … landscape was and is regarded and 'curated' as an object of the human gaze."

SHALEM LIVES near campus with his wife, who is an acquisitions editor for art books. They like to vacation to explore new museums, but Shalem is hard pressed to say which institution is his favorite. "There are too many great museums in the world!"

— Jill C. Shomer

COLUMBIA COLLEGE

REUNION 2018

THURSDAY, MAY 31–SATURDAY, JUNE 2

ENJOY NEW YORK CITY ...

Take a tour, or see a Broadway show or ballet.

GO BACK INTO THE CLASSROOM ...

Enjoy Mini-Core Classes on Dostoevsky, Berlioz and more.

RECONNECT WITH CLASSMATES ...

See some of the people who shaped your Columbia years.

DANCE UNDER THE STARS ...

Cap off the weekend at the Starlight Celebration, by Low Steps.

REUNION 2018

For classes ending in 3 or 8 and the Class of 2017

REGISTER: COLLEGE.COLUMBIA.EDU/ALUMNI/REUNION2018

ALL-CLASS REUNION 2018 (SATURDAY, JUNE 2)

All other alumni are invited on Saturday for the annual All-Class Reunion programs

REGISTER: COLLEGE.COLUMBIA.EDU/ALUMNI/ALLCLASS2018

CONTACT US

ccreunion@columbia.edu
212-851-7834

COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



ROAR, LION, ROAR

Lions Win First Ivy Men's Squash Title

Columbia continued its rapid rise through the ranks of men's squash, winning its first Ivy League championship with an undefeated league record and finishing the season number 3 in the nation, its highest final ranking ever.

It's a remarkable success story, considering that Columbia did not field varsity teams in squash until the 2010–11 season. The Lions, coached by Jacques Swanepoel, achieved their initial goal of "5 in 5" by earning a place in the top five of the men's rankings in 2014–15, their fifth varsity season. This year they took another giant leap forward by defeating defending league champion Harvard — for the first time — 5–4 on January 14 and then sweeping the Ivies.

"It's a culmination of a lot of hard work and a long phase of building the right culture," said Swanepoel, who has led the program since its inception in September 2009.

The Lions clinched a share of the Ivy League crown by beating Princeton 8–1 in their final home meet on February 10 and then earned the championship outright by traveling to Philadelphia and defeating Penn 5–4 on February 12. With the teams tied at 4–4, defending national champion Osama Khalifa '18 delivered the win over Penn by defeating Andrew Douglas in straight sets as Columbia finished the season 14–1 overall and 7–0 in the Ivy League.

"It feels surreal to finally win this title," Khalifa said. "It is the best moment by far of my four years. We have all worked so hard to achieve this, and I couldn't be any prouder of my teammates today."

The Lions finished third in the College Squash Association Team National Championships on February 23–25, beating Rochester 6–3 in the first round, losing to Harvard 6–3 in the semifinals and then bouncing back to defeat St. Lawrence 7–2 to secure the No. 3 national ranking.

Columbia's only loss of the regular season came at the hands of national champion Trinity College by a margin of 6–3 on January 10.

The Ivy championship team was a mix of proven veterans and talented younger players. Co-captains Khalifa, Seif Attia '18 and Arhum Saleem '18 provided experienced leadership, Khalifa going 10–2 while playing primarily at number 1 against the opponent's top player, Attia compiling a 10–3 record at numbers 2–4 and Saleem posting a 10–2 mark in the middle of the nine-man lineup. But non-seniors also made vital contributions in the dual-meet season, with Krish Kapur '21 going 12–1, Robin Mann '20 11–1, Velavan Senthilkumar '21 10–1 and Carter Robitaille '19 9–4.

The Lions' most noteworthy victory came against Harvard on Columbia's home court, the SL Green Streetsquash Center in Harlem, on January 14. The Crimson were ranked second in the nation at the time and had won the Ivy championship four of the last five seasons; the Lions finished second in each of the last three years.

ROAR!

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit **gocolumbialions.com.**

Adham Madi '19, Senthilkumar, Mann and Kapur won the first four matches for Columbia. It was up to Khalifa to clinch the match, and he did it in a thrilling five-setter against Harvard's Saadeldin Abouaish. The two went back and forth through the first four sets, Abouaish taking the fourth 14–12 to extend the match to the limit. But Khalifa prevailed 11–9 to give Columbia one of the biggest wins in program history.

"It was one of the most exciting matches ever," said Khalifa. As for beating Harvard, he said, "It's something we've all been working toward, so it was amazing when it all came together." Added Saleem, "We've come so close these past three years. To be able to clinch it in our senior year is an unbelievable experience."

Columbia's women's team, meanwhile, finished its season ranked sixth nationally after beating Penn for the first time by a 5–4 count on February 12. The Lions ended the campaign with a 9–5 record overall and 4–3 in the Ivy League.



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Osama Khalifa '18 was named Ivy League men's squash Player of the Year for the third year in a row.

Women's Fencing Wins Ivies Outright, Men Share Crown

Columbia fencing added a chapter to its storied history as the women's team posted a perfect 6–0 record at the Ivy League Championships in Princeton, N.J., February 10–11 to win the league title outright, and the men went 4–1 to share the crown with Harvard and Penn. In addition, Sylvie Binder '21 — the top-ranked foil fencer in the country under the age of 20 — won an individual championship with a 13–1 record in the two-day event.

The Lions have won 50 Ivy League team titles in program history. The men have won or shared the championship in each of the past five seasons and 39 times overall, the first in 1956. The women have finished atop the Ivies in three of the last four campaigns — they were second to Princeton a year ago — and have won 11 titles, the first in 1989.

Twelve Columbia fencers earned All-Ivy honors off their performance at the championships. Among the women, Binder was joined by Iman Blow '19 (foil) and Violet Michel '20 (sabre) on the All-Ivy first team, while Katie Angen BC'18 (épée), Lena Johnson BC'18 (sabre), Ester Schreiber BC'20 (foil) and Giana Vierheller SEAS'20 (épée) made second team. On the men's side, Sidarth Kumbla '21 (foil) and Nolen Scruggs '19 (foil) were named to the first team and Calvin Liang '19 (sabre), Gabe Canaux '18 (épée) and Porter Hesslegrave '18 (épée) made second team.

Columbia's women opened the round-robin Ivy League Championships by trouncing Cornell 24–3 and never looked back, posting a composite match score of 126–36 in sweeping their six rivals. The Lions opened the second day of the event against previously undefeated Harvard and registered a 19–8 victory, with the foil team of Binder, Blow, Schreiber and Quinn Crum '19 posting a perfect 9–0 mark. Columbia then wrapped up the title by easily beating Yale 21–6 and Penn 20–7.

In the men's competition, Columbia beat Princeton and Brown on opening day but dropped a 16–11 decision to Harvard to begin the second day of matches. But the Lions bounced back to beat Yale 20–7 and then defeated previously unbeaten Penn 15–12 to gain a share of the championship.

Columbia also participated in the NCAA Northeast Regionals in Waltham, Mass., on March 11, followed by the NCAA Championships in University Park, Pa., March 22–25.



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Columbia fencing has won 50 Ivy League team championships, more than any other school.



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Camille Zimmerman '18 led the Ivy League in scoring and rebounding for the second straight season.

Camille Zimmerman '18 Becomes Basketball's Leading Scorer

Hundreds of varsity basketball players have worn the Lions' blue and white uniforms over 118 seasons, the vast majority of them men, since women did not begin competing for Columbia until 1983. But in all that time, no one has scored more points than Camille Zimmerman '18.

On January 20, Zimmerman scored 22 points in a 57–47 loss to Cornell at Levien Gym and surpassed, by one point, the record of 1,767 points scored by Buck Jenkins '93 (1989–93) that had stood for nearly a quarter-century. "In the moment, it was just another small milestone in what I wanted to accomplish for this program," Zimmerman said of her record-breaking game. "But I felt very grateful for all my teammates and coaches who made it possible. And looking back, it's pretty special knowing I've scored more than any basketball player in Columbia history — and that I've set a high bar for future Lions to reach and I hope one day break."

The 6-foot-1-inch Zimmerman finished her career with 1,973 points. Her last game was on March 3.

"Camille is a rare talent," said her coach, Megan Griffith '07, a former star point guard for the Lions. "Not only is she one of the most prolific scorers and rebounders in Ivy League basketball history, but she also is one of the hardest workers I have coached or played alongside. She has an innate love for the game."

Zimmerman is the third Ivy League women's basketball player to lead her school in career scoring across both genders, joining Penn's Diana Caramanico and Harvard's Allison Feaster-Strong, and the 20th in the NCAA's Division I.

Of Columbia's top 10 career scorers, four are women: Zimmerman, Ula Lysniak BC'87, Tori Oliver '17 and Kathy Gilbert White '91.


END
JUSTICE



DAVID FINCK '70

50 YEARS LATER

HALF A CENTURY HAS PASSED SINCE THE SPRING '68 STUDENT UPRISING. *CCT* LOOKS AT WHAT HAPPENED THEN, AND HOW THOSE PROTESTS CAN HELP US UNDERSTAND OUR WORLD RIGHT NOW.

LAST FALL, *CCT*'S EDITORS sat down to consider how best to commemorate the half-centennial of Spring '68. Its anniversary has been noted at key milestones through the decades, but this year in particular felt different. Or rather, felt *similar.* We are a divided nation at this moment, in many ways. Young people are regularly protesting again, on topics such as free speech, immigration, LGBTQ rights, women's issues and gun control. We decided to take the opportunity to examine what has changed since 1968 — and what hasn't.

We requested perspective from writer and former *CCT* editor-in-chief Jamie Katz '72, BUS'80, and Paul Starr '70, a reporter for *Spectator* in 1968 and later its editor-in-chief, who today is a professor of sociology and public affairs at Princeton. Katz's piece, "A Tinderbox, Poised To Ignite" revisits the animating passions of that time, and Starr's "How the '68 Uprising Looks Today" offers a big-picture comparison between 1968 and 2018.

When *CCT* marked the 40th anniversary in 2008, then–editor-in-chief Alex Sachare '71 warned readers not to take any one account of Spring '68 as gospel, and the same holds true now. People will always look at historic events through their own prism. There could be 100 different accounts of Spring '68 and they could all be true — or mostly true. Katz opted to emphasize the role of the black students who occupied Hamilton Hall, which he believes has been underplayed. Starr's analysis is based on his expertise as a Pulitzer Prize-winning writer and professor, not as a soothsayer. Readers interested in more information can consider a number of accounts published in earlier issues of *CCT* as well as books such as *Up Against the Ivy Wall: A History of the Columbia Crisis,* by Jerry L. Avorn '69 and members of the *Spectator* news staff (Starr among them)*; The Strawberry Statement: Notes of a College Revolutionary,* by James Simon Kunen '70; *Crisis at Columbia*, by Harvard law professor Archibald Cox; and Paul Cronin JRN'14's new anthology, *A Time to Stir: Columbia '68.*

—Jill C. Shomer

LESS THAN THREE WEEKS AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., BLACK STUDENTS PROTESTING THE MORNINGSIDE PARK GYM PROJECT PLAYED A DECISIVE ROLE IN THE EPOCHAL 1968 CAMPUS UPRISING

A TINDERBOX, POISED TO IGNITE

BY JAMIE KATZ '72, BUS'80

Raymond M. Brown '69 grew up in a segregated housing project in Jersey City, N.J., where his father, Raymond A. Brown, was a well-known civil rights leader and defense attorney. "My father was very militant, what we used to call in the old days a 'race man,'" Brown says. He remembers his dad saying, amidst the war in Vietnam and campus movements of the late 1960s, "I oppose this war, but you will rue the day you ran Lyndon Johnson out of office." Brown adds, "He proved to be prophetic about that."

Brown was a leader in the Students' Afro-American Society (SAS), a key activist group — along with Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) — in the April 1968 student uprising at Columbia. He was arrested when police cleared the campus after the weeklong protests, and was arrested again and beaten on May 22 during a second clash with police on campus. Those experiences piqued his interest in a legal career; eventually Brown followed in his father's footsteps as a criminal defense attorney.

Most accounts of the '68 revolt stress the role of Columbia's SDS chapter and its leader, Mark Rudd '69. This emphasis has long bothered Brown, not because he seeks the limelight, but because he believes it fails to acknowledge the black students' occupation of Hamilton Hall as the pivotal event of the protest, not an "ancillary coda to a New Left uprising," he says.

Brown says people often ask him, "Do you know Mark Rudd?" "For years I found this inquiry irksome, until the past decade, when I bantered with Rudd about it," Brown writes in *A Time to Stir: Columbia '68*, a new anthology of essays edited by Paul Cronin JRN'14. "He has had the grace and insight to supply a proposed answer: 'Ask Mark Rudd if he knew about the Black Students of Hamilton Hall.'"

There's much to be said for Brown's contention. Yes, opposition to the Vietnam War was formidable at Columbia and nationwide by 1968, gaining momentum after the Tet Offensive earlier that year and the entry of antiwar senators Eugene McCarthy and Robert F. Kennedy into the presidential race. The role of SDS in pushing for more confrontational tactics is undeniable. But the blowup at Columbia was different: It took place on the edge of an angry Harlem community less than three weeks after the shocking murder of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The authorities knew they had to tread carefully. "There was a deep concern that if there were a violent exchange between police and black students at Columbia, there would be a riot in Harlem, and that the city would explode," says Robert Siegel '68, the recently retired senior host of NPR's *All Things Considered*, who anchored WKCR's award-winning coverage of the campus uprising. "The white students had no such leverage."

Finally, the chief impetus for the black students' involvement was not the war — though SAS joined SDS in opposing Columbia's ties to war research through the Pentagon-affiliated Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) — but rather the proposed University gym in Morningside Park, that sliver of contested turf one block east of the campus.

Viewed from the low-lying streets of West Harlem, the cliffs of Morningside Park loom like the walls of a fortress. The rocky bluff actually did play that role once: During the War of 1812, College students and alumni trekked uptown to construct defensive blockhouses along the ridge in case British redcoats invaded the area again, as they had during the Battle of Harlem Heights in 1776. A few generations later, landscape architects Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux transformed this terrain into a picturesque city park that opened in 1895, just a year before Columbia crowned the Heights with its new uptown campus. By the 1960s, however, the park had become a crime-ridden, garbage-strewn buffer zone between a proud but struggling black community and the more privileged precincts above. Freshmen entering the all-male, nearly all-white College in those days were cautioned to switch to the uptown local train at Broadway and 96th Street, lest they wind up at the "wrong" 116th Street station east of the park.

The West Harlem community had a different perspective on Morningside Park's ballfields, playgrounds and walkways, especially after Columbia conceived a plan to replace its aging, dysfunctional gymnasium with a much larger structure nestled in the park, reserving a small portion for the public. The project drew little attention in the early '60s, while plans were still on the drawing board, but by 1966–67, opposition was taking hold, and NYC Parks Commissioner Thomas Hoving sharply criticized the surrender of city parkland and the paltry provision for community residents.

Whatever its merits, the gym project presented a perfect emblem — or caricature — of The Man: a powerful white institution imposing its will on the black community while offering limited access to a separate-but-unequal facility. Worst of all, in symbolic terms, the

GERALD S. ADLER PH'80. PHOTO RESEARCH COURTESY PAUL CRONIN JRN'14



"GYM CROW" MUST GO: SAS' RAYMOND M. BROWN '69 AT THE SUNDIAL.



DEMONSTRATORS MARCHING TO LOW LIBRARY TO CONFRONT COUNTER-DEMONSTRATORS WHO HAD BLOCKED FOOD AND SUPPLIES FROM BEING SENT IN.

building's main entrance would command the top of the building, with the community entrance 11 stories below on the Harlem end. A back door, basically. As in, Service Entrance. On one level, this was merely an accident of the park's topography. On another, it was an intolerable insult.

At the same time, the University was under fire for buying up local real estate and evicting poor tenants to make way for its own expansion. Community relations were at a nadir. "Columbia was not beloved as a landlord and it wasn't beloved as a neighbor," Brown says.

THE GYM PROJECT PRESENTED A PERFECT EMBLEM — OR CARICATURE — OF "THE MAN": **A POWERFUL WHITE INSTITUTION IMPOSING ITS WILL ON THE BLACK COMMUNITY** WHILE OFFERING LIMITED ACCESS TO A SEPARATE-BUT-UNEQUAL FACILITY.

He and many other black students felt an imperative to align with local activists on these issues, and they formed strong bonds. There were problems on campus, too. Black students were routinely challenged to produce ID at the main gates. When the May 1967 issue of *Jester* lampooned black frat brothers at Omega Phi Psi as "tar babies" and "a bunch of big ants in purple beanies," the brothers were not amused. A group marched over to the humor magazine's office to confiscate several boxes of the offending issue and torched a small stack in front of Ferris Booth Hall. That summer, urban riots rocked America; to quell the most violent rebellion, in Detroit, President Johnson dispatched the Army's 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions, which had spearheaded the D-Day invasion 23 years earlier. America was again at war — in Southeast Asia, and increasingly, in its own cities.

In the months leading up to the Spring '68 crisis, State Senator Basil A. Paterson, Assemblyman Charles Rangel and other local leaders warned Columbia to halt the gym plans. Others took a less civil tone. "If they build the first story, blow it up," black power advocate H. Rap Brown exhorted community members at a December 1967 meeting of the West Harlem Morningside Park Committee. "If they sneak back at night and build three stories, burn it down. And if they get nine stories built, it's yours. Take it over, and maybe we'll let them in on the weekends."

After King's assassination on April 4, 1968, mayhem broke out in well over 100 cities. Some 20,000 people were arrested. Fires raged just two blocks from the White House. From Morningside Drive, Columbia could hear the not-too-distant wail of fire engines and police sirens in Harlem.

The basic narrative of the campus blow-up has been well-chronicled: An April 23 Sundial rally morphed into a march on the gym site and an eventual sit-in at Hamilton Hall; acting College Dean Henry S. "Harry" Coleman '46 was barricaded in his office there for 26 hours, receiving food and encouragement through his barred window on College Walk. Students refused to leave unless their demands were met; the principal ones called for the University to sever ties with IDA, abandon the Morningside gym project and

COLUMBIA DAILY SPECTATOR

grant amnesty for the occupiers. Officials were prepared to meet with protesters, but not to yield under such coercion.

On that first night, the black students in Hamilton asked the SDS group to take over another building; SDS reluctantly complied and at sunrise forced their way into Low Library. The stage was set for a much broader confrontation. And by concentrating in one building, the black students had multiplied their influence. Rumors that they were armed added to the authorities' concerns.

During the next three days, while the administration hesitated and the faculty mediated, protesters occupied Fayerweather, Avery and Mathematics. It was a startling wave of defiance — "mysteriously dynamic," Paul Berman '71 writes in the foreword to the Cronin anthology. "The professors who watched in astonishment failed to see it sometimes, and so, too, did the journalists. But we students saw it. We felt it in the flesh. We trembled."

Many students adamantly opposed the takeovers and threatened to take matters into their own hands. Coleman helped cool tempers at key moments, as did basketball coach Jack Rohan '53, fresh off his team's thrilling Ivy championship. Many more — whether sympathetic to the protesters' aims but not their means, or merely curious or confused, or just wishing to continue their academic work — remained on the sidelines.

Beyond the gym and Vietnam protests in a year of worldwide upheaval, there were more parochial reasons why Columbia students rebelled that spring. *Crisis at Columbia,* the report of a fact-finding commission chaired by future Watergate prosecutor Archibald Cox, cited problems of university governance, poor faculty morale, "appallingly restricted" student residential facilities and a general lack of community on campus: "The hurricane of social unrest," they wrote, "struck Columbia at a time when the University was deficient in the cement that binds an institution into a coherent unit." To that point, Robert Siegel '68 counters: "Before blaming too much on the pathology of the Columbia experience, I would say that Columbia students were in fact acting on, and reacting to, the world around them — not being insulated from it by the comfort of their undergraduate experience. They were saying things are wrong in this university because it's part of this country and this society."



BONNIE FREER GS'68

HENRY S. "HARRY" COLEMAN '46, ACTING DEAN OF THE COLLEGE, PEERS FROM HIS WINDOW IN HAMILTON. "MOST OF THE STUDENTS HAD A GREAT AFFECTION FOR HIM," RAYMOND M. BROWN '69 SAYS. "SO WE WOULD MAKE SURE HE HAD FOOD AND EVERYTHING HE NEEDED."



HUGH ROGERS

"WE WOMEN DO CONTINUE TO MARCH," SAYS JOSIE DUKE BROWN BC'69 (FAR LEFT), LEADING A COMMUNITY ACTION ON AMSTERDAM AVENUE.

Spirits were certainly high within the "liberated" buildings — one couple was married in Fayerweather by the campus chaplain — despite the gathering presence of hundreds of helmeted police officers beyond the Gates. And there were more subtle tensions, including a degree of gender inequality that would be more forcefully opposed in years to come. "Life inside Columbia's occupied buildings was intense, intoxicating, and profoundly pre-feminist," Nancy Biberman BC'69 recalls in *A Time to Stir*. Adds Carolyn Rusti Eisenberg GSAS'71: "To say that the atmosphere was macho is akin to saying it's warm on the Equator. A group of 20-year-old white men, many of them close friends, paralyzing an entire university in New York — the media capital of the world — was an electrifying experience." SDS' firebrand press secretary, Josie Duke Brown BC'69, does not remember women being relegated to housekeeping chores, as some were, but she does agree that SDS did not look to them for leadership. "I certainly don't feel that they were trying to cultivate the role of women," she says.

After several tense days of waiting and enduring obscene taunts from students, members of the NYPD's Tactical Patrol Force had had enough by the time they were summoned to action in the wee hours of April 30. "When the order 'hats and bats' (helmets and nightsticks) finally came, there was no doubt in any cop's mind about what was about to happen," former officer Mike Reynolds says in *A Time to Stir*.



MARK RUDD '69 (RIGHT) IN MORNINGSIDE PARK. AFTER A BRIEF CLASH WITH THE NYPD, STUDENTS RETURNED TO CAMPUS AND OCCUPIED HAMILTON HALL.

What followed has been described as a police riot, with plenty of heads cracked by those "bats": 712 were arrested — including some 200 women — and there were 148 injuries. For a bastion of high-minded learning and civility, it was calamitous on every level.

In his 2009 memoir, *Underground: My Life with SDS and the Weathermen,* Rudd remembers calling home from President Grayson Kirk's desk in Low Library soon after SDS broke in on April 24. He reached his father in suburban Maplewood, N.J., still drowsy from sleep.

"We took a building," Rudd told him.

"Well, give it back," his father said.

While students in Low were helping themselves to Kirk's sherry and holding endless strategy sessions, the 90 or so black students in Hamilton Hall held regular drills for assembling peacefully, getting arrested, handling tear gas. "We kept the place clean enough so you could eat from the floor," Raymond Brown says. "That's part of the ethos with which we were raised both individually and in the context of the movement — we've got to be *better.*"

On the night of the bust, NYC Human Rights Commissioner William Booth helped the black students negotiate an orderly exit through an underground tunnel, away from cameras and onlookers, to be arrested by a black-led police team, with lawyers present. "They marched out with dignity as a well-disciplined army would," historian Walter Metzger GSAS'46 later observed. "They were proving something very important to themselves."

Important in part, Brown underlines, because the black students felt a dual responsibility: political solidarity, yes, but also an awareness that they represented a vanguard of hope and accomplishment. "The students were under tremendous pressure from parents and others who had sacrificed tremendously to get them there — who weren't necessarily unsympathetic to the cause, but were not terribly sympathetic to their kids possibly getting expelled from school, either," Brown says. "Getting your degree was in and of itself a political statement."

The Bust triggered a massive student strike that effectively ended regular business at the University for the rest of the semester. Professors were given the option of grading all students on a pass-fail basis. Some held classes in their apartments, some on campus lawns or at neighborhood restaurants. The College canceled its traditional Class Day ceremony, and the University moved its June 4 Commencement exercises to the nearby Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine for security reasons. "Here at Columbia," historian Richard Hofstadter GSAS'42 told graduates that day, "we have suffered a disaster whose precise dimensions are impossible to state, because the story is not yet finished, and the measure of our loss still depends on what we do. For every crisis, for every disaster, there has to be some constructive response."

That night Robert F. Kennedy was assassinated in Los Angeles after winning the California primary. The year 1968 was far from over.

Former CCT *editor-in-chief* **Jamie Katz '72, BUS'80** *has held senior editorial positions at* People *and* Vibe *and contributes to* Smithsonian Magazine *and other publications. His most recent* CCT *piece was an obituary for Wm. Theodore de Bary '41, GSAS'53 in the Fall 2017 issue.*

WHAT WE CAN LEARN FROM THE
STUDENT REVOLT OF 50 YEARS AGO

HOW THE '68 UPRISING LOOKS TODAY

BY PAUL STARR '70

If you know about it only vaguely or picture it in a gentle light, the student revolt at Columbia in April 1968 might seem like a romantic episode in that era's youthful rebellion. But it was a deadly serious confrontation — electrifying to people who supported the revolt; horrifying to others who saw it as evidence of a widening gyre of instability and violence in America. Inner-city riots were all too familiar by that time. Earlier that month, the black ghettos had exploded after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated. Yet the Columbia uprising was something new: students at a privileged, Ivy League university taking the college dean hostage and occupying the president's office and four other campus buildings for a week, until the administration called in the police to arrest more than 700 of them in a nighttime "bust" that left more than 100 injured.

Extraordinary as the revolt was, it would probably now be of interest only to aging alumni if there were no connection to larger developments that have left a deep imprint on American society. The 1968 revolt was both an emblem of its time and a preview of things to come. In the half-century since, demands by minorities and social changes that first appeared among the young have provoked a furious backlash and split America across racial, cultural and ideological lines. Often the backlash has been stronger than the forces for change; indeed, the radical political impulse of the late 1960s was largely spent within a few years.



HUGH ROGERS

STUDENT PROTESTERS ENTERING MORNINGSIDE PARK IN APRIL 1968.

Today, the nation's campuses are again embroiled in political conflict over such issues as race and free speech. Recent demonstrations have not matched those of the Sixties in scale and national impact; the free-speech clashes that erupted in Berkeley last year were not nearly as significant as the mid-1960s Berkeley free-speech movement. Trends in student attitudes, however, do show a move back toward the pattern of that time. According to a national survey of college freshmen conducted annually by UCLA's Higher Education Research Institute, the proportion of students describing themselves as "liberal" or "far left" fell from just over 40 percent in 1971 to half that level in 1980. But the liberal/far left share has climbed since then, in 2016 reaching 35 percent, the closest it has come to its old peak. With middle-of-the-roaders declining and the proportion identifying as "conservative" or "far right" holding steady, campuses are more polarized now than they have ever been in the 51 years of the UCLA survey.

To be sure, both college students and American society have changed a great deal since the Sixties. Students today are far more ethnically diverse — at Columbia, non-Latino whites make up only 39 percent of the U.S. citizens and permanent residents in the Class of 2021* — and the College and the other Ivies no longer exclude women, as nearly all of them did in 1968. The salience of such issues as immigration, racism, gender equality and sexual assault should be no surprise. Women now predominate on the left. When UCLA began surveying freshmen, women were more conservative than men. Now they're more liberal.

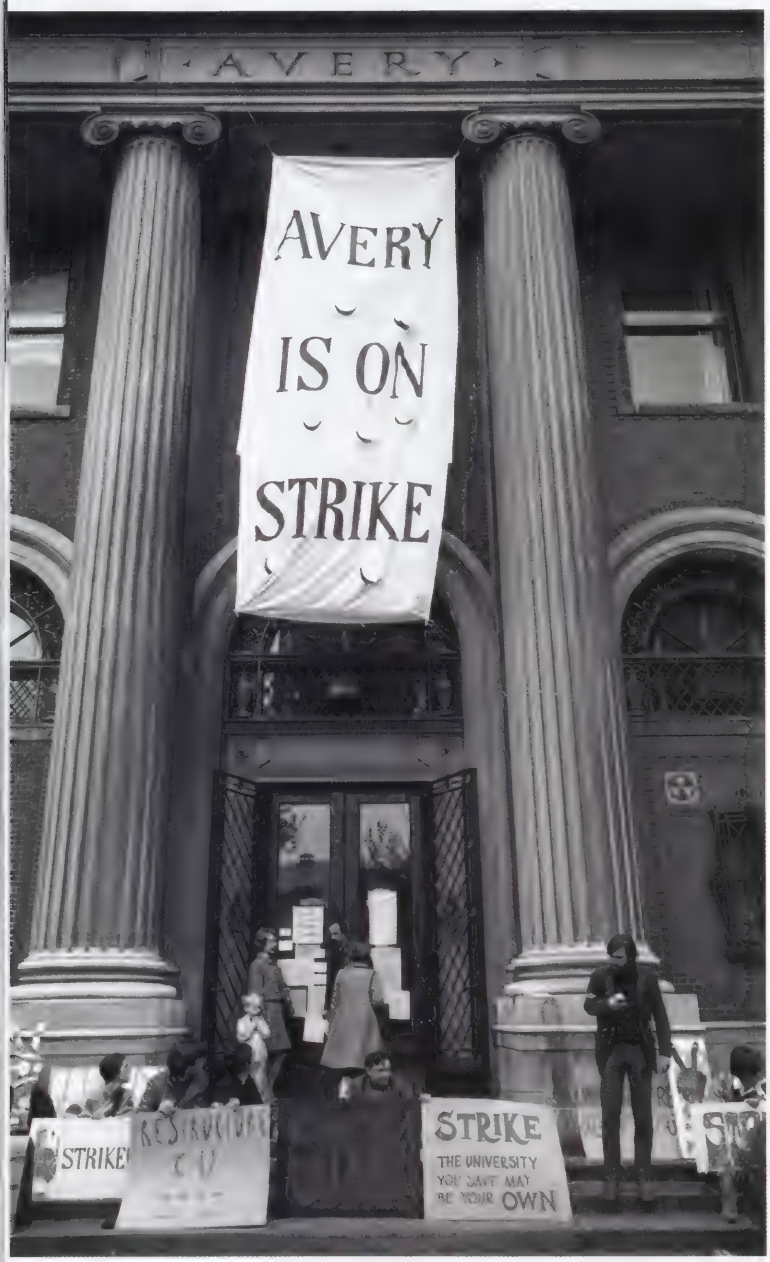
But while the demographics, issues and alignments are different, there are parallels between the contentious campuses of the Sixties and those of today. Once again there is a resurgent left in a bitterly divided country. That's not to say college deans should get extra security or university presidents need new locks on their doors. This is a moment, however, when revisiting the events at Columbia 50 years ago might be instructive in thinking about what is happening now.

* Percentage reflects incoming students of Columbia College and Columbia Engineering

The issues that grabbed the headlines and drove protests nationally in the Sixties — racial injustice, the Vietnam War, traditional norms and systems of authority that a new generation saw as archaic and unresponsive — were also the concerns that lay at the heart of the 1968 revolt. Columbia just happened to be a place where the black movement (by then a movement for black power), a radicalized antiwar movement and cultural rebellion converged.

Organizationally, the 1968 uprising was two protests in one, the result of an uneasy coalition between the Students' Afro-American Society (SAS) and the radicals organized through the Columbia chapter of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS). Although the two groups agreed on joint demands, their underlying agendas were different.

For the black students, the key demand was that the University end construction of a gymnasium in Morningside Park, a project opposed by many of Harlem's leaders. Designed with a back entrance facing Harlem and offering the community access to a separate portion of the facilities, the gym became a perfect symbol of inequality and racism. "Gym Crow," the protestors called it.



GERALD S. ADLER PH'80

THE POLICE BUST SET OFF A UNIVERSITY-WIDE STRIKE: ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN PLANNING STUDENTS AT AVERY HALL.

On the first day of the protests, after marching on Low Library and the gym site, both black and white demonstrators occupied Hamilton Hall, imprisoning Dean Henry S. "Harry" Coleman '46 in his office. That night, however, the SAS leaders kicked out the white students, told them to go seize their own building and blockaded Hamilton. The black students' role in the revolt panicked the administration, which hesitated for days to call in the police for fear that a raid on Hamilton would touch off an uprising from Harlem. But the black students were determined to be both respectful and militant. They soon released the dean, kept Hamilton Hall clean and in order, and eventually agreed to be arrested without resistance in a way that preserved their dignity.

The white radicals were not as restrained. After being kicked out of Hamilton, they broke into Low Library, where they occupied President Grayson Kirk's office, putting their feet up on his desk, smoking his cigars and going through his personal effects and files. During the next several days, additional groups took over Avery, Fayerweather and Mathematics, setting up "liberated zones" where they could enjoy true freedom by debating radical ideas for hours, while the "girls" from Barnard took primary responsibility for food and housekeeping. The radical leadership, just like the College, was all-male.

Aside from opposing the gym, the white radicals focused on the University's complicity with the war, demanding that Columbia sever its ties with the Institute for Defense Analysis, an inter-university consortium for defense research. Although the University insisted it had to stay neutral in political matters, radicals insisted its role in military research proved that it did not. Other demands included

ON SOCIALLY DIVERSE CAMPUSES, RACE AND DIVERSITY ARE NOT JUST ABSTRACT QUESTIONS, BUT ALSO PRACTICAL REALITIES OF DAILY LIVING.

a general amnesty for all demonstrators, as well as adherence in all future discipline to "standards of due process" at open hearings before faculty and students. The demand for due process implied a rejection of the University's authority to act *in loco parentis* (authority Barnard was exercising at the time in disciplinary proceedings against a student who had been found living with a Columbia man off-campus).

Achieving the concrete demands of the strike, however, was not what the SDS leaders were after. They saw themselves as a revolutionary vanguard in support of insurgents around the world, including the Viet Cong, and their goal was to reveal the University as an agent of oppression so as to radicalize students and inspire them to join in the revolutionary struggle.

The radicals were hardly a majority of Columbia students. Arrayed against them were counter-demonstrators, many of them athletes, continually urged by coaches and deans to "cool it" lest the campus devolve into random violence. Many others, varying in their sympathies, stayed on the sidelines. Members of the faculty interposed themselves between demonstrators and counter-demonstrators and sought unsuccessfully to mediate between the radicals and administration.

A more adroit University leadership might have had more support from students and faculty. In a *Spectator* interview about stu-



BARNEY EDMONDS GS'67, SOA'69

STUDENTS OPPOSED TO THE TAKEOVERS ORGANIZED COUNTER-PROTESTS.

dents' role in University policymaking a year before the revolt, one administrator had declared, "Whether students vote 'yes' or 'no' on a given issue means as much to me as if they were to tell me they like strawberries." Students who might have wanted to work through channels had no channels to work through. The administration also succeeded in alienating the faculty who tried to negotiate a settlement during the crisis. At key junctures, top administrators and the trustees issued statements undermining the mediators' credibility with the strike leadership. In defense of his decision to call in the police, Kirk said he had acted on behalf of all universities: Conceding amnesty to the students "would have dealt a near-fatal blow" to American higher education.

The SDS leadership, it's true, had no interest in compromise, as bringing on the police would help radicalize students. As a sociology professor, the late Allan Silver, remarked at the time, SDS and the administration were linked in a relationship of "antagonistic cooperation." They both saw themselves as instruments of a higher cause that made concessions impossible.

In the end, of course, the SDS leaders' hopes for a revolution were disappointed, though the uprising did have concrete effects. The gym was built at another location instead of Morningside Park, and the University adopted changes in governance — such as the creation of the University Senate — that demonstrated receptivity to greater participation. Perhaps the most significant outcome was a new understanding of the University's relationship to its students, best explained by anthropologist Margaret Mead BC 1923, GSAS'28, a longtime affiliate of Columbia's Department of Anthropology.

In an essay published that fall, Mead wrote that the events at Columbia marked the end of an epoch when students were treated as children and entitled to "special privileges and immunities from the civil authorities." By calling in the police, the University had revoked its "traditional claim to protect and discipline its own students." Although many people were outraged, Mead argued that it was time to abrogate the old compact: "It is no longer appropriate to treat students as a privileged and protected group who, in return for this special station, abstain from political activity of any sort, submit to the regulation of their private lives, and risk expulsion for every sort of minor infraction of a set of outmoded rules." Once students were treated as adults, Mead concluded, they would have to make "socially responsible demands" and would then acquire "the education in real life which they complain the university denies them." That was a revolution of sorts, though it was not the one the radicals had in mind.

50 YEARS LATER

So is it 1968 all over again? Not quite.

But 2018 is also a time when Americans are at odds with one another, the young are alienated from the government and the right spark could ignite riots and bloody confrontations. Just as the universities were swept into the conflicts of the Sixties, so they are being drawn into today's controversies. Fifty years ago, students demanded that universities drop any pretense of neutrality and oppose the Vietnam War; today they demand that universities take a stance on immigration, serve as sanctuaries for the undocumented and protect their Dreamers. In the Sixties, national politics had personal implications for people of college age because of the risk of being drafted to fight in Vietnam. Today, the Trump administration's policies have personal implications for many students, who, even if they are white, straight and native-born, know others who live in fear of deportation or harassment because of their minority or immigrant status.

On socially diverse campuses, race and diversity are not just abstract questions, but also practical realities of daily living. Likewise, the political issues related to gender and sexuality — women's equality, gay rights, gender nonconformity, sexual harassment — have direct and personal meaning. Contrary to some observers, these are not merely questions of "identity politics," to be disparaged by comparison with the great public issues of the 1960s. They are part of the same struggle for equality. The Black Lives Matter, #MeToo and #TimesUp movements today are just the latest phase in widening claims for equal respect. From the perspective of gender politics, the 1968 revolt took place in an ancient retrograde era, but many radicals at the time believed that "the personal is political" and later came to discover it had deeper possibilities than they at first understood.

In some respects, the roles of left and right have reversed. In the 1960s, liberalism in the universities was under attack from the left; now it's more often under attack from the right. In the Sixties, radicals on the left used provocative actions and language to unmask universities as repressive institutions. Now alt-right speakers come to campuses in the hope that their provocations will also unmask liberal hypocrisy about free speech. The game only works through antagonistic cooperation — for example, if progressive students demand the speakers be banned in the interest of keeping the campus a "safe space," protected from ideas and words that offend them. That suggests they want back the old order that Mead pronounced dead a half-century ago.

DEAD GIVEAWAY

CHECK OUT VIDEO FOOTAGE OF THE GRATEFUL DEAD'S MAY 3, 1968, CONCERT ON CAMPUS: COLLEGE.COLUMBIA.EDU/CCT/LATEST/FEATURE-EXTRAS.

It is one of the glories of the university that it is not a safe space in that specially protective sense. While the seminar room requires civility and a guiding hand, the public forum of the campus does not. This is the good part of political confrontation on campus. It can be as educational as a seminar, and in fact, a deeper immersion in political argument than classrooms can usually provide. And while we shouldn't picture the 1968 revolt in too gentle a light, this was its upside. If you were paying attention, you could learn a great deal. Today's students can do the same.

Paul Starr '70 *is a professor of sociology and public affairs at Princeton and winner of the 1984 Pulitzer Prize for nonfiction. He was a reporter for* Spectator *in 1968 and later its editor-in-chief.*

Good Morning America's Dr. Jennifer Ashton '91 is on a mission to demystify women's health

Just What the Doctor Ordered

By Atossa Araxia Abrahamian '08, JRN'11

Many Americans know Dr. Jennifer Ashton '91, PS'00, HN'16 as *Good Morning America*'s "Dr. Jen" — the charismatic TV doctor who shares daily health headlines, decodes new cancer studies and somehow manages to explain why sugar is so bad for you in a way that's non-judgmental.

Ashton isn't simply a talking head, though. She was recently named ABC News' chief medical correspondent — a journalism gig that's sent her into the field to cover hurricanes and mass shootings, and also pushed her to weigh in on the intersection of health and politics during the (never-ending) debate about whether to dismantle the Affordable Care Act. Ashton doesn't just play a doctor on TV, either. A board-certified ob/gyn and a nutritionist, she has her own medical practice where, along with treating her regular patients, she offers pro bono care to female military veterans.

Ashton has also published three health books — one each for teens, expecting mothers and women over 30 — and writes a column for *Cosmopolitan*. These all contribute to her personal mission: demystifying complex or taboo subjects surrounding health, fitness and sex for women of all ages.

"I believe there's a massive crisis in women's health today in this country that crosses all socioeconomic demographic lines and geographic regions," Ashton says from her car while reverse-commuting from Manhattan to her New Jersey office, where she sees patients three days a week. "Women's understanding of the body and how it works is in many cases stuck in the Dark Ages. It's filled with myth, rumors and old wives' tales. I think it's really hurting women."

Ashton grew up in Tenafly, N.J., and as a senior at Horace Mann debated whether to attend Duke or Columbia. Columbia was the obvious choice: Her father, cardiologist Dr. Oscar Garfein, holds degrees from the College (1961), P&S (1965) and the Business School (1997), while her mother, Dorothy, graduated from Teachers College (1968). Her brother, Dr. Evan Garfein, also has a degree from P&S (1999), while his wife, Tanya Simon, has one from the College (1992). "Believe it or not, I got no pressure from my dad when I was deciding," Ashton says. "It took me more than a month to choose, and I never regretted it. I was always more of an NYC person than an N.C. person."

Ashton knew she wanted to apply to medical school eventually, but as an undergraduate she majored in art history, reasoning — on her father's advice — that it was a good time to focus on something she probably wouldn't have time to study later in life. After graduation, she enrolled in General Studies' post-bac program to complete her science requirements; she matriculated at P&S in 1996.

There, Ashton dialed into the drive that has become one of her defining characteristics. She was elected class president four years in a row; she also gave birth to both of her children while completing her coursework. "I kind of knew that it would only get harder, so I figured it made sense [to do] while I was still paying to be there, versus doing it while I was getting paid to do work," she says. Her daughter, Chloe, is a junior at Lawrenceville, a prep school in New Jersey, and her son, Alex, is a sophomore at the College.


JÖRG MEYER

Just What the Doctor Ordered

The opportunity to be on TV didn't come Ashton's way until 2006. She had been doing ob/gyn work for several years — a specialization she chose because it contained a bit of everything: women's health, which she was passionate about from the start, but also surgery, endocrinology, psychiatry, cancer and obstetrics. "I had zero desire to do media," she says. "Some friends in the TV news business told me they thought I'd be great on camera, and I thought they were kidding. But they kept pursuing it, and I was asked to come on Fox News for a weekend segment.

"It was about kids and nutrition and healthful snacks," Ashton recalls. "I wasn't trying out — it wasn't something I really wanted to do! The only things I remember are it was a Saturday, I'd never been on set before and it was on live national cable TV." Before long, Fox offered her a contract; she stayed with the network for three years and was the channel's first on-air female medical contributor.

In 2009 Ashton switched to reporting at CBS. She appeared on the *CBS Evening News* with Katie Couric and *The Early Show,* and, with a team of reporters, earned a 2010 Alfred I. duPont-Columbia University Award for excellence in journalism. (The winning news segment was about how the recession was hurting children's health, from an uptick in abuse cases to increased depression and anxiety.) Since 2012, Ashton has appeared almost daily on ABC, where she's now a fixture on *Good Morning America,* and, from 2013 to 2016, she co-hosted the health and wellness talk show *The Doctors.*

Alberto Orso, a senior producer who has worked with Ashton since she joined ABC, says her friendly, down-to-earth style immediately appealed to *GMA*'s viewers, but that her work on women's health was what set her apart. "One of her passions is heart health," Orso says. "She has a good relationship with the American Heart Association and she's brought us stories about women and heart health that explain how the issues are slightly different for women. She's been really good at flagging new studies, and also participating in campaigns to make people more aware.

"The fact that she continues to practice keeps her fresh, too," Orso adds. "She brings patient perspectives to the table and can discuss the kinds of things our audience is wondering about. That kind of intimacy and immediacy is really special."

Ashton extends her caring manner to ABC's staff, many of whom have come to regard her as a kind of in-house physician. "If one of us needs help with something, a suggestion for a referral or a question about our own health, she's not afraid to weigh in with 'Go see this person' or 'Do this,'" says Orso. "We're lucky to have her one phone call away."

Now with more than a decade of on-air experience under her scrubs, Ashton says she loves the broadcast side of her career. It can be emotionally trying, she adds, reflecting on back-to-back assignments last year that sent her to cover Hurricane Harvey in Houston, Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico and the Las Vegas shooting at the Route 91 Harvest music festival. "They hit me hard," she says. "I came back and cried multiple times about those events.

"It's very easy for journalists or doctors [to appear] robotic or detached, but it's hard to see that level of suffering and not have it affect you," she says, adding that as a reporter, she's not always coming to the scene in her emergency room "armor." "I've seen really horrendous things in the hospital; as a medical resident I was in the operating room with a woman [dying of] stage 4 ovarian cancer. But when things happen in the field it can be even harder, because you're in a different mindset."

She also points to the challenges that come with social media. "For anyone in the public eye, while we're used to it, it can still be unbelievably hurtful," she says of anonymous commenters and trolls spewing hate on Twitter. "I welcome debate and differences of opinion. But many, many times it's done in such an unprofessional and disrespectful and rude manner, so it obviates any real potential for an intellectual discussion."

What makes it all meaningful, though, Ashton says, is the enormous platform she has to weigh in on news, publicize sensitive issues such as sexually transmitted diseases, dispel myths about the side effects of birth control (which "dramatically lowers uterine and ovarian cancer risk," she says) and talk about things no one wants to talk about, like menopause.

Her work with female veterans was largely enabled by her platform as a public figure. "Last year, I saw an article about how only one-third of VA hospitals have a gynecologist on staff," she recalls. "I thought, that is unacceptable! It goes into my belief about there being a crisis in women's health on every level. I can't change



Ashton reporting last October from Las Vegas, where she covered the aftermath of the music festival shootings.

PHOTOS: COURTESY DR. JENNIFER ASHTON '91, PS'00, HN'16



On the air as chief medical correspondent, with *GMA* anchor Robin Roberts.

this in Washington, D.C., or in the VA hospital, but I can change it in my office, because I don't have to ask for permission. So I did a press release saying I'd be honored to provide free care to any female veteran or active service member, and I've had women take me up on that."

Given the current political climate, and how much public discussion there is about sexual harassment, rape and reproductive rights, Ashton now sees her role as an expert on women's health — and a woman who's experienced sexism in the workplace — as doubly vital.

> **"There is a crisis in women's health on every level. I can't change this in Washington, D.C., or in the VA hospital, but I can change it in my office."**

"I hope this conversation will change the paradigm for women and men," she says, referring to the #MeToo and #TimesUp movements. "I think people need to know that this isn't just about actresses. It happens in every profession. Unfortunately, I've had many patients who were raped — some in college, some by strangers, some as children — and personally, I was sexually harassed when I was a resident."

Whether she intends to project a superwoman image or not, Ashton is an impressive human. Her day starts with a meditation session at 5 a.m., plus she's taking a class to improve her Spanish and trying to learn more about wine. She's also a lifelong, self-professed fitness fanatic who loves running, lifting weights, competing in triathlons and SoulCycle. "Certain things are nonnegotiable: seven hours of sleep, working out six days a week and keeping my brain busy," she says.

Family friend Kathy Leventhal says being this driven is in Ashton's nature: "Jennifer has always been dynamic, and everything she sets her mind to do she does with gusto. When she was in med school and pregnant with her son, she never missed a beat. Her hours were crazy, she was commuting and doing a residency, and yet seemed to handle everything with great ease. I've never met anyone who's so good at balance."

Leventhal also points to Ashton's lack of awkwardness — likely forged by years of talking about vaginas to complete strangers, as well as a deep understanding of what she's talking about — as crucial in bridging the gap between her identities of being a journalist and a doctor. Leventhal would know: She's also her patient.

"When she walks into the exam room she's Dr. Ashton, but it's not weird, it's not awkward — she goes from being Jennifer my friend to Jennifer my doctor. She has an uncanny ability to make all people, not just patients, comfortable."

Ashton regards her accessibility as imperative to her cause. "I read so many articles about gender discrimination in medicine. We're not including women in scientific studies. We're not even doing aggressive research on women's health issues. We don't like to talk about ovaries or cervixes or the uterus, and it's a massive problem.

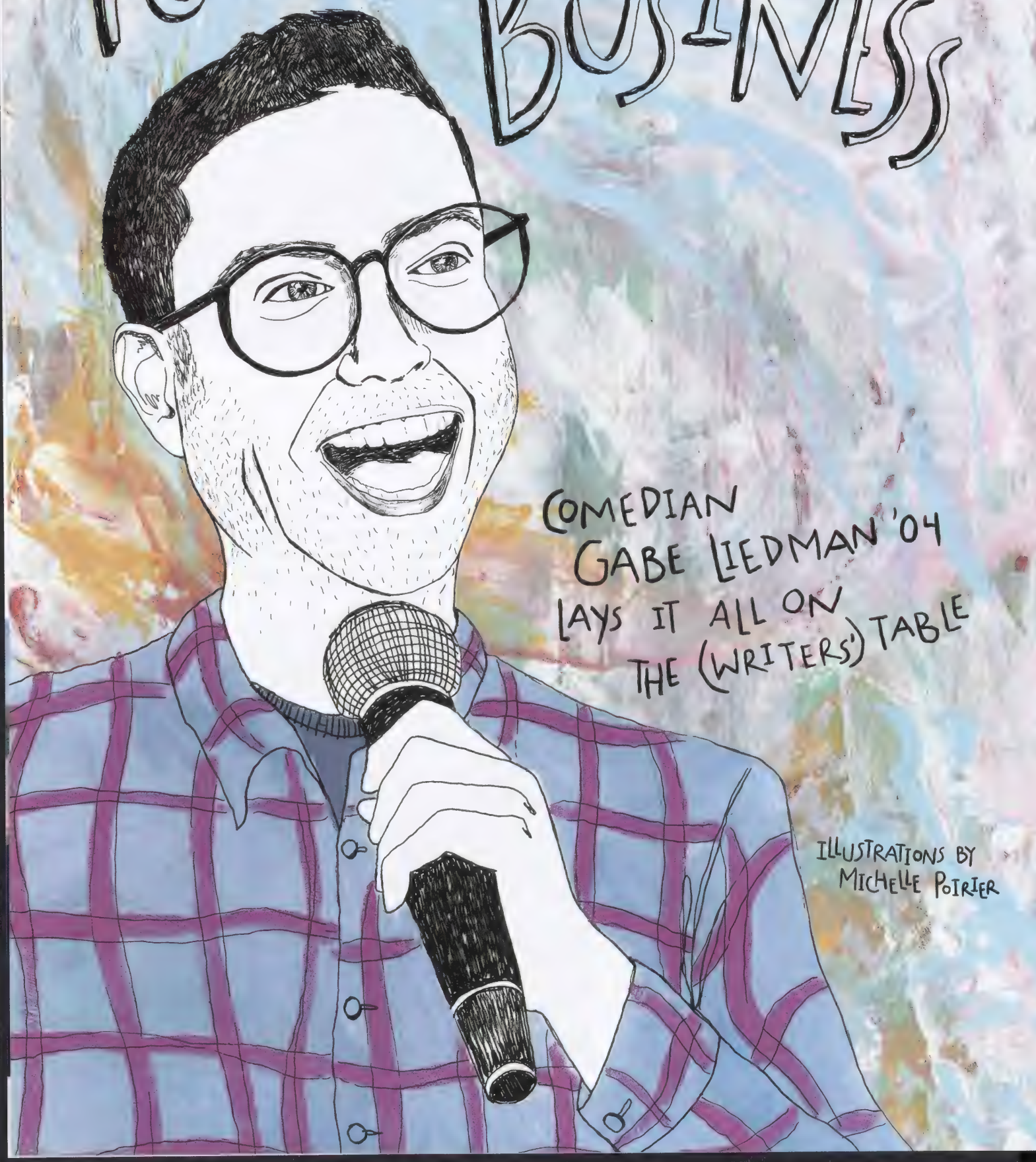
"I have a big voice for women and so I want to use it to help as many women as possible," Ashton says. "And I like to project that I understand what people are going through and that I have a lot of those feelings, too.

"The era of paternalistic medicine is over."

Atossa Araxia Abrahamian '08, JRN'11 *is a journalist and the author of* The Cosmopolites: The Coming of the Global Citizen.

FUNNY BUSINESS

BY PHIL WALLACE '04



COMEDIAN GABE LIEDMAN '04 LAYS IT ALL ON THE (WRITERS') TABLE

ILLUSTRATIONS BY MICHELLE POIRIER

For the last five years, Gabe Liedman '04 has been writing for some of television's buzziest series — *Inside Amy Schumer*, *Broad City*, *Brooklyn Nine-Nine* — as well as the offbeat sketch-based *Kroll Show*. "Writers' rooms are a mix of creative individuals, so the chemistry is always different," he says of the delicate collaboration. "You're often thrown together with total strangers and told to pull off a work of art together. As you can imagine, it's not always smooth. But I've been lucky with a lot of great rooms." Today, Liedman is a writer and producer for the award-winning Amazon series *Transparent*.

"Comedy always seemed like the best use of a brain to me," says Liedman, who grew up soaking in sitcoms like *Seinfeld*, *The Carol Burnett Show*, *Murphy Brown* and *The Golden Girls*. The versatile writer and performer recently sat down with *Columbia College Today* to talk about his influences, his "instant" friendship with classmate and former comedy partner Jenny Slate '04 and his journey from selling belts at Barneys New York to cracking jokes for Amazon Studios.

CCT: Did you always know that you wanted to be in comedy?

Gabe Liedman '04: I always knew that I wanted to be in entertainment. I grew up in Philly, watching *a lot* of TV, exclusively comedy. It's just what I was drawn to. Quoting *The Simpsons* with my friends Monday morning at school was a sport. It was obsessive!

Throughout my childhood I tried my best to participate in plays and stuff like that at school, but I didn't really find my voice until my high school started an improv comedy club. It was a branch of the national improv theater ComedySportz — short-form improv sort of like *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* I can't remember where I got the guts to participate, but for some reason I went for it. And that unlocked something in me. I excelled, despite being pretty shy and decidedly unpopular.

My taste was heavily informed by my funny, if slightly insane, family. We listened to comedy records in the car instead of music — usually Richard Pryor, which is definitely not suitable for kids. We were always joking, always going for a laugh in times of stress.

And you followed that interest at Columbia?

Yes! I joined the Varsity Show — that's where I met Jenny, trying out, and we ended up being in that together and [also] the Two Left Feet improv group on campus. I was like, "This is the funniest person I've ever met in my life." Instant friends. When we graduated, we said, "Well, I'm not done doing comedy just because school's over." There were other people still involved [in comedy], too. So, we kept doing sketch and improv together, and over the years other people found their grown-up careers and we were the last two standing. We still hang out all the time.

What was your Varsity Show experience like?

You have to black out to do the audition. You turn on a totally different part of your brain and say: "No fear. I'm just going to say the first thing that pops into my head." My grades improved markedly from when I started. I don't know the neuroscience of it, but it was the most crazy crash course in confidence and believing in the thoughts that you have, and basically, not telling yourself to shut up.

Also, there is a very strict production schedule, so it is a little bit more than just a club. You have to put on a whole show on a certain day, and it had better be good because everyone is watching. So that was my first experience really having to meet those kinds of creative deadlines. It was much more like my real life now than schoolwork was.

Anything else about the College that's now relevant in your "real life"?

The Creative Writing Program was huge for me. It's where I learned how to write scripts and sit around a table and critique other people's works and collaborate in that way. It was part of General Studies, so the classes had a very different makeup. They were at night; there were school employees

there, there were people who were continuing ed who were just doing it out of interest. There were also the undergrads like me who were like, "I want to be a writer when I grow up."

All the teachers were working artists; I had a filmmaker who had films in festivals, and an author who had a book out. That was inspiring; it was like, "There is a life." It's not just an idea that people write for a living.

What did you do after graduation?

During the day I was a salesperson at Barneys on 60th and Madison. Jenny had a lot of odd jobs — she worked at a bakery, she was a nanny. It was, "Find whatever day work you can that gives you your nights free; pay your bills that way." Then at night we worked in comedy clubs for free for years.

I was lucky to fall pretty quickly into the alternative comedy scene at a club called Rififi in the East Village. It was a really magical time and place — a comedy show every night of the week, with hosts and performers who are so famous and successful now, though no one would've guessed it at the time. The place was a serious dump. Its doors stayed open thanks to a weekly dance party for underage NYU students on Friday nights. But the alternative comedy scene was at dive bars like that, rather than at traditional comedy clubs like Carolines in Times Square. Looking back, I can't believe it even existed, and it definitely never could in today's East Village. It was magic!

"IT'S A GREAT LESSON IN LIFE FOR A WHITE MAN TO EXPERIENCE NOT BEING THE POWER VOICE. I'M THERE TO SERVE SOMEONE ELSE'S STORY. MORE PEOPLE SHOULD GO THROUGH IT."

I remember, in the mid-2000s, you were on the VH1 show *Best Week Ever*, which had comedians joking about the week in pop culture. What was that like?

I was totally on that! That was such a funny production model — they would have comedians come in for an hour and you would just sit in a chair and make jokes, and then they would pay you $500 and you would leave. It was such a huge deal at the time, so exciting. A lot of people got their start there. That's where Paul F. Tompkins and John Mulaney and all these huge guys came from. It was just like, "This is a place in Manhattan that will pay you to be funny."

How did you get connected to Amy Schumer? Not many people knew her in 2013, when you started working on her show.

A lot of my first shows were with comics who I came up with, or a little bit behind, who were like, "Want to work on my show?" It was sort of friends helping each other out. Amy was in my same downtown Lower East Side scene. She had done [the reality show] *Last Comic Standing* and she sort of had her profile from that. She liked my work and when she sold her show to Comedy Central, she asked if I would be interested. And I was like, "God yes! Definitely." That was super fun. She's awesome. That was a great writers' room and my first union job. That sort of gave me the feeling like I could do this forever.

You also worked on *Broad City*, and now *Transparent* — a lot of shows created and run by women. What's it like being a man in that kind of environment?

I've always felt the best working with women. It was no surprise that Jenny and I clung to each other. I think being a gay guy who's out feels different to women than it does to straight guys.

Comedy Central used to play a ton of stand-up specials during the day, which I watched growing up, and there was always Rita Rudner and Wendy Liebman and Ellen DeGeneres. When people say women aren't funny, it's crazy; I actually find women more funny and more interesting. And I guess that's the vibe I give off, because women have championed me in a lot of the same ways that I've championed them.

But I've also written for *Brooklyn Nine-Nine,* which is a giant Fox show. It's the typical writers' room that you hear about that's run by all Harvard people and it's super male, but I fit in. I stayed there for 70 episodes and loved it. It's not like I'll only work for women, but the more choices I get to make about my own fate, the more I gravitate toward women.

Right now, I'm the only man in the writers' room at *Transparent,* which is really cool. It's a great lesson in life for a white man to experience not being the power voice. I'm there to serve someone else's story. More people should go through it. More people should experience it.

Let's talk about that. *Transparent* tackles a lot of charged topics — gender, trauma, the Holocaust. What's it like to collaborate in that environment?

Tackling issues is always scary. It's scary to think you might get it wrong, might offend someone or a large group of people. So the stakes feel high. We certainly haven't been perfect at my time at *Transparent*, far from it. And there were a lot of close calls no one got to see, thank God. But it's been a cool challenge. I like coming from the comedy world and working on a drama. Or, something that's more dramatic at least — it's often classified as a comedy, just because it's 30-minute episodes. I guess it's the overachiever in me or something, knowing that I can do something outside of my comfort zone, or deliver



something that people don't necessarily expect from me based on the other things on my résumé.

Also, working with so many other queer people is just invaluable. It's not the norm by any means, and I relish it.

Do you think of yourself as a writer, comedian or both?

Both. If you were to look at my finances, the money is coming from writing jobs and that's what I do 10 months out of the year. But I got there because I'm a comedian and I'm not going to stop doing that.

When I'm in production on a show, which for the last five years has been the majority of my time — writing in writers' rooms — I try to do stand-up once or twice a month to keep the muscle active. Then when we're on break, which is maybe two or three months out of the year, I try to do it a couple of times a week. That's usually when I get my new jokes.

You mentioned "alternative comedy" earlier. Is that how you would describe your style?

I think I would be considered observational, not topical. I talk a lot about myself — what the world's like through my eyes. I feel like that's what I have to offer. I don't get that political. It's kind of impossible now to avoid discussing Donald Trump, but up to that point I wasn't super political.

There's an old saying that comedy is tragedy plus time. I saw one of your stand-up acts where you're talking about your online dating experiences. It was like mini-tragedies that you expanded upon.

Mini-tragedies, embarrassment, it's all sort of the darker side of life. You're trying to get people to relate to you. So it's something we all have in common — that it sucks to date, that we're not the weight we want to be.

What are some new projects that you're working on?

I'm writing season five of *Transparent* for Amazon Studios. I'm also about to enter the development world, taking three original pilots to studios and networks to see if anyone is interested in making them with me. I can't get too detailed on that front, mostly out of superstition and a little bit for legal reasons. But, it's exciting! By the time this is printed there might be a new show out there that says "Created by Gabe Liedman." Maybe even three! Maybe still zero. But this is a new thing for me and I am psyched!

What would you tell the person who's two or three years out of the College, working at Barneys but trying to get into comedy?

My dad used to say, "I didn't help you go to Columbia so you could sell belts." I would tell that person, "Imagine yourself as a character in a movie. This is just the shitty part in the beginning. You've seen this before. Just get through the end of your 20s; it'll pay off. Just have fun." I look back at it as the best part; it was the best those years of my life could have possibly gone.

Phil Wallace '04 *is VP of business development for Reigning Champs, the parent company of NCSA Next College Student Athlete. He is also the founder of ScreenPicks.com, an entertainment website.*

CCT Print Extras

To get the lowdown on Rififi's alt-comedy scene from Liedman and other comedians who lived it, go to **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

Here's to You, Mr. Garfunkel

The singer who shaped a generation looks back on his life before and after Paul Simon

What Is It All but Luminous: Notes from an Underground Man, *the poetic title of* **Art Garfunkel '65***'s new autobiography, might seem at first like a baffling phrase. But as the bestselling musician explains in a recent* Forbes *interview, it's also a revealing concept — illuminating, if you will. Garfunkel describes taking exhausting, emotional hikes in the last few decades that made his vision go blurry — "a sign that you're feeling spiritual as well as literal," he says in the interview. "The smudged world that you see then is glowing, less precise but with its vitality enhanced. It all shines, 360 degrees around you."*

It's this sort of ethereal, almost angelic mindset — combined with his halo of blond curls, and the soaring glory of his countertenor voice — that led Rolling Stone *to dub Garfunkel "the choirboy of pop music." But then Garfunkel has always been a bit of an anomaly. "I think of myself as a little bit of a misfit in today's times," he told* Forbes. *"Modern America looks goofy to me. Maybe I'm different. Maybe I'm the goofy one." This appealingly thoughtful outsider's stance infuses* Luminous, *a highly personal look back at a life lived through music.*

With Paul Simon, his childhood friend from Queens, Garfunkel achieved early musical stardom, hitting the national charts in 1957 as Tom and Jerry, with the song "Hey Schoolgirl." After changing their name to Simon & Garfunkel, the duo went on to create generation-defining songs, including "The Sound of Silence," "Homeward Bound" and "Mrs. Robinson," before splitting in 1970.

As Garfunkel sees it, his existence (so far) falls into two acts: Before and after the final Simon & Garfunkel album, Bridge Over Troubled Water. *Garfunkel's years at Columbia — he enrolled at the Architecture School before switching to the College to major in art history — formed a vital and sustaining part of that first act. After that first '50s hit, the friends' music failed to sell, and each went back to school (Simon graduated from Queens College). Garfunkel's middle-class upbringing had shaped him to seek a conventional life: "I was the kid who was going to go to college and find some way to make a decent living," he says.*

"Sweet memories" sums up the time he spent on Morningside Heights, including singing a cappella with the Kingsmen and reading textbooks to his roommate Sandy Greenberg '62, BUS'67, who was stricken with glaucoma. Perhaps most extraordinary for Garfunkel was the ubiquity of books at Columbia, and the seriousness with which they were treated. "People would sit around at dinner and talk about books, and I thought that was just fabulous," he says.

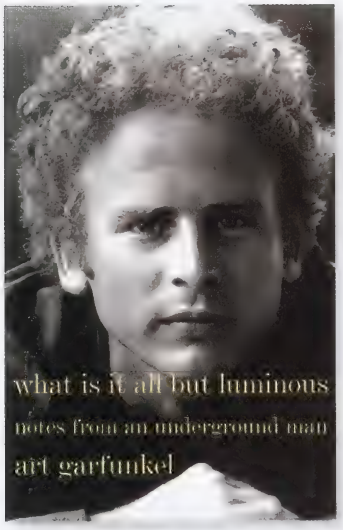
Garfunkel and Simon revived their act in 1964; Garfunkel remembers Simon bursting into his room with the lyrics of "The Sound of Silence." Columbia has a bit part in their later musical history, as well — the big sound of their hit "The Boxer" was partly recorded in an illicit late-night session within the high stone walls of St. Paul's Chapel. After smuggling in equipment, the pair "stayed there all night, singing all 16 'li-la-lis,'" Garfunkel recalls.

*Since those early days, Garfunkel has recorded his own songs ("All I Know") and successful solo albums (*Angel Clare, Breakaway*), and has acted in such films as* Catch-22 *and* Carnal Knowledge. *The following excerpt from Chapter One of* Luminous *describes his childhood infatuation with music and the early years of his tight-knit friendship with Simon.*

— Rose Kernochan BC'82

ILLUSTRATIONS BY KELLIE MCDONALD





Singing is a tickle in the back of the throat, a flutter of the abdomen, the vocal cords, called vibrato. It's sent from God through the heart, and it is un-analyzable. Some people can just do it. They listen to the radio and begin to emulate. At five or six, I was doing the inspirational songs that I heard, like "You'll Never Walk Alone." I heard my parents singing "Bye Bye Blackbird" in the living room—in two-part harmony. That I could do it too was a delight that took me to places where echo put tails on my notes—lovely extensions of sound. I fell in love with the magnifying effect of tiled rooms, hallways, and stairwells. When no one was listening, I sought to make beautiful vowel sounds for my own ears' sake. It was my private joy. Walking in rhythm over sidewalk cracks, I sang my tune. Then did it again in the next higher key. I was on my way to first grade.

Write the poem out loud
Authorize the heart
Burn the Bridge and
Be the work of art

My singing was a serious gift that I respected all through my childhood, my life. I was skinny, a lefty, a Scorpio. My father called me "Whitey Skeeziks" but I identified with the "A" of Arthur. It was steeple-shaped, upward aspiring, hands in prayer. I loved my white satin collar when I sang in the temple. I was the angel singer and I felt "touched."

I went for the songs that had the goose bumps. "If I Loved You," from *Carousel*, did it for me, Nat Cole's wonderfully different "Nature Boy." And I went to singers I just knew could sing: How easy was Bing Crosby's "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas." How brunette smooth was Jo Stafford's "Fly the ocean in a silver plane." How open-throated Sam Cooke's "You Send Me." How extraordinary "It's Not for Me to Say" (Johnny Mathis). I saw Little Richard at the Brooklyn Paramount in '55 stand on the piano in a purple cape. He ripped through "Long Tall Sally" and took the night. I fell for the great groove records. "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On" had it (Jerry Lee Lewis). So did "Don't Ya Just Know It" (Huey "Piano" Smith). Frankie Ford's "Won't you let me take you on a Sea Cruise" was as good as it got for me.

On Saturday mornings, in 1953, in Keds sneakers, white on white, I took my basketball to P.S. 165. We played half-court ball, three on three. Or else I listened to Martin Block's *Make Believe Ballroom* on the radio. I loved to chart the top thirty songs. It was the numbers that got me. I kept meticulous lists—when a new singer like Tony Bennett came onto the charts with "Rags to Riches," I watched the record jump from, say, #23 to #14 in a week. The mathematics of the jumps went to my sense of fun. I was commercially aware through the Hit Parade, as well as involved in the music. Johnnie Ray's "Cry," the Crewcuts' "Sh-Boom," Roy Hamilton ballads, "Unchained Melody" reached me. Soon the Everly Brothers would take me for The Big Ride.

As I entered Parsons Junior High where the tough kids were, Paul Simon became my one and only friend. We saw each other's uniqueness. We smoked our first cigarettes. We had retreated from all other kids. And

we laughed. I opened my school desk one day in 1954 and saw a note from Ira Green to a friend: "Listen to the radio tonight, I have a dedication to you." I became aware that Alan Freed had taken this subversive music from Cleveland to New York City. He read dedications from teenage lovers before playing "Earth Angel," "Sincerely." When he played Little Richard's "Long Tall Sally," he left the studio mic open enough to hear him pounding a stack of telephone books to the backbeat. This was no Martin Block.

Maybe I was in the land of payola, of "back alley enterprise" and pill-head disc jockeying, but what I felt was that Alan Freed loved us kids to dance, romance, and fall in love, and the music would send us. It sent me for life. It was rhythm and blues. It was black. It was from New Orleans, Chicago, Philadelphia. It was dirty music (read "sexual"). One night Alan Freed called it "rock 'n' roll." Hip was born for me. Chuck Berry, Jerry Lee Lewis. Bobby Freeman asked, "Do you wanna dance, squeeze and hug me all through the night?" and you knew she did.

I was captured. So was Paul. We followed WINS radio. Paul bought a guitar. We used my father's wire recorder, then Paul's Webcor tape machine. Holding rehearsals in our basements, we were little perfectionists. We put sound on sound (stacking two layers of our singing). With the courage to listen and cringe about how not right it was yet, we began to record.



We were guitar-based little rockers. Paul had the guitar. I wrote streamlined harmonies whose intervals were thirds, as I learned it from the Andrews Sisters to Don and Phil and floated it over Paul's chugging hammering-on guitar technique. It was bluesy, it was rockabilly, it was rock 'n' roll. We took "woo - bop - a - loo - chi - ba" from Gene Vincent's "Be-Bop-A-Lula." We stole Buddy Holly's country flavor ("Oh Boy"), the Everlys' harmony ("Wake Up Little Susie"). Paul took Elvis's everything ("Mystery Train"). As he drove the rhythm, I brought us into a vocal blend. We were the closest of chums, making out with our girls across the basement floor. We showed each other our versions of masturbation (mine used a hand). "The Girl for Me" was the first song we wrote—innocent, a pathetic "Earth Angel." In junior high we added Stu Kutcher and Angel and Ida Pellagrini.

All the while, I did a lot of homework, the shy kid's retreat. My geometry page was a model of perfection. Anything worth doing is worth doing extraordinarily well—why not best in the world?

My mother could prettify anything. If Darth Vader appeared in my bedroom, live at 3 a.m., and I was nine—my mother would say to him, "Dorothy, put down the mask, you're no Lancelot, then come down for mahjongg and crumb cake." And the girls called him "Dot."

At twelve I was in my seventh year of being a singer when Paul and I got together. We became rehearsal freaks of fine exactitude. We did our version of doo-wop, copying Dion and the Belmonts. We wrote "A Guy Named Joe." We fused rock 'n' roll with country (rockabilly), the way Buddy Holly did. But it all took flight when Don and Phil Everly started having hits in 1956. We fell out over their sound. Every syllable of every word of every line had a shine, a great Kentucky inflection, charisma in the diction. From moment to moment they worked the mic with star quality. The Everlys were our models. Paul and I wrote our songs together and practiced getting a tooled, very detailed accuracy in our harmony. We came together, with mouths, a foot apart, under a dome of very fine listening, and fashioned a sonic entity of its own.

Excerpted from: WHAT IS IT ALL BUT LUMINOUS: Notes from an Underground Man by Art Garfunkel. Copyright © 2017 by Art Garfunkel. Published by Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of The Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, a division of Penguin Random House LLC.

alumni news



THINKING OF WARMER DAYS AHEAD

As mist enshrouds *The Thinker* on a chilly night, thoughts turn to coming spring days when campus bursts into bloom and students flock outside to enjoy the warm weather. University President Nicholas Murray Butler (Class of 1882) commissioned the sculpture from the Musée Rodin (after sculptor Auguste Rodin's death in 1917, his studio continued producing casts of the work) and the pensive bronze was installed on campus in 1931.

PHOTO BY SCOTT RUDD

Contents

37 CCAA Message

38 Bookshelf
Happiness Is a Choice You Make: Lessons from a Year Among the Oldest Old, by John Leland '81

40 Lions and Newsmakers
Tom Meyers '97, Ebele Ifedigbo '10, Emily Broad Leib '03

44 Class Notes
Just Married!

88 Obituaries

90 The Last Word

The Rites of Spring

By Michael Behringer '89

After a long winter, spring is especially welcome this year.

For the Columbia College Alumni Association, the season unofficially began with one of our signature events, the John Jay Awards Dinner, on March 7. The award recognizes College alumni for distinguished professional achievement and is one of the highest honors granted to College alumni.

This year, the College recognized five outstanding recipients: **Eric Garcetti '92, SIPA'93,** mayor of Los Angeles; **Sara Just '88,** *PBS NewsHour* executive producer and WETA SVP; **Julie Jacobs Menin '89,** commissioner, NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment; **Robert P. Rooney '89,** CEO, Morgan Stanley International Plc., head of Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and head of technology; and **Ron Simons '82, BUS'89,** four-time Tony Award-winning producer and actor. More than $1.1 million was raised for the John Jay National Scholars Program, which supports some of the College's most exceptional students.

Spring also puts undergraduates in a celebratory mood, as they emerge from winter hibernation. For me, a favorite spring tradition was spending sunny afternoons on the Low Steps with friends. And if an "occasional" class was overlooked in favor of sunshine and laughs, I don't think we were any worse off for it.

The Steps were featured prominently in a 1988 *New York Times Magazine* cover story remembered fondly by many of my classmates. Titled "Columbia Recovered" and written by **Morris Dickstein '61** on the 20th anniversary of the 1968 campus protests, it examined how 1968 impacted Columbia, for better and for worse. Returning to campus a generation later, Dickstein described how much the campus had improved since those infamous times.

It is that magazine's cover photo, however, that has stayed with so many of us. Taken on one of those spectacular New York City spring afternoons, it seemed as if everyone we knew was on the Steps. (That's me sitting atop *Alma Mater.*) At first glance, it's a photo of students doing nothing more than enjoying a beautiful day. Looking more closely, the scene reveals a frenzy of activity and conversation. That candid snapshot succeeded in capturing the warmth, positive energy and friendships that defined my campus experience.

Known commonly as "The Photo," it soon attained a special place in Columbia lore for my generation. My mother had it framed for me as a graduation gift. It's held a prominent place in every office I've had. I glance at it almost every day, and it always brings a smile.

As the University recognizes the 50th anniversary of Spring 1968, I'd say Columbia has moved from "recovered" to "remarkable." We College alumni are fortunate to be part of a vibrant community that comprises a forward-thinking administration, world-class faculty, outstanding students and dedicated former students.



JORG MEYER

Behringer's keepsake, a daily reminder of his Columbia experience.

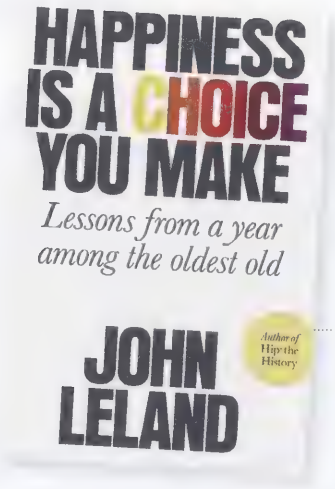
The feeling of community on Morningside Heights is especially strong in May, with its even more special Columbia traditions, including Senior Week, Class Day and Commencement. The Alumni Parade of Classes, which began in 2004, is particularly energizing. It takes place on Class Day, and all alumni are invited to carry their class year banners in a processional that includes graduating students, faculty and administrators. This parade underscores the transition the graduates are making from students to alumni and emphasizes that our Columbia connection is a lifelong one. It's an experience I highly recommend. Learn more: college.columbia.edu/alumni/class-day-parade.

Reunion 2018 follows just weeks later, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2, with special events on campus and throughout New York City. This year's is for classes ending in 3 and 8, and the Class of 2017. All-Class Reunion 2018, to be held that Saturday, is open to all alumni. I love attending — it's a great way to see friends from different years, revisit campus and reconnect to Columbia's intellectual experience by attending Mini-Core Classes with faculty and lectures with alumni. And of course, to relive memories of sunny days on the Steps. To register for Reunion 2018 or All-Class Reunion 2018, go to college.columbia.edu/alumni/reunion2018.

I hope to see many of you on campus this spring, and I also hope you'll consider supporting Columbia by increasing your engagement with the College, donating to an opportunity that excites you or participating in any other way that keeps you connected. There's no better time to renew friendships or your relationship with Columbia.

ROAR!

bookshelf



Wisdom of the Aged

By Jill C. Shomer

Happiness Is a Choice You Make: Lessons from a Year Among the Oldest Old (Sarah Crichton Books, $26), by **John Leland '81,** opens with a quotation from David Bowie: "Aging is an extraordinary process whereby you become the person you always should have been." For Leland, a reporter at *The New York Times,* sharing stories about aging turned out to be an extraordinary process as well.

Leland spent a year visiting with six elderly New Yorkers while reporting the 2015 *Times* series "85 and Up," which formed the basis for *Happiness.* "I was very interested in writing about older people. I loved the emotional connection you get writing about them," he says. "It gets right to the heart of people's lives." Leland points out that more people are living past 85 than at any time in human history — close to six million in the United States at the last Census. But despite the record numbers, this is a group that doesn't often see itself in popular culture, and Leland's subjects — including a 90-year-old woman who found love in her Bronx nursing home and a still-busy 92-year-old filmmaker and writer — welcomed the opportunity to share their wisdom and challenges.



ERICA BERGER

Each of the six elders — Fred, Ping, John, Helen, Ruth and Jonas — has a different lesson to teach, and each gets their own chapter. The power of gratitude, living with purpose, nourishing relationships with the people who matter and making the choice to be happy — all are part of a prescription for living, at any age. If people are now in fact living longer, Leland suggests we have an obligation to live better.

Despite differences in backgrounds and circumstances, the elders were all more or less content — all minimized any hardships of their earlier lives, even if they were struggling with the last chapter, Leland writes. Their zen perspective affected the author profoundly: "I expected the year to bring great changes in them," he says. "I didn't expect it to change me. One of the great things about this was giving up the idea that I was an expert," Leland explains. "I don't know what it's like to be 91 years old — it wasn't about what *I* know. I could leave all my preconceptions behind, and it was just so rewarding."

Leland, who was born in Stuyvesant Town but grew up in Mountain Lakes, N.J., is not a stranger to reconsidering notions. He first visited Columbia when his older brother was looking at colleges, and was pleasantly surprised. "I hadn't seen that side of the city before," he says. "I had been to Times Square and to museums on school field trips, but I hadn't seen anything like the Columbia campus. I hadn't ever thought of going to school in an urban environment."

Formerly an editor-in-chief of *Details* and an editor at *Spin* and *Newsweek*, Leland actually started his undergraduate experience at Columbia Engineering. "I fell in love with my English classes and transferred to the College after three semesters," he says.

Leland's path to journalism began unfolding while he was still on campus. "I wrote about music for *Spectator*; then one of the editors, Mark Fleischmann '79, became the editor of *Trouser Press Collectors Magazine*, and I wrote for him there," he says. "There were a lot of little rock magazines at that time, then they would fold and two or three people you knew at one magazine would go to two or three other publications. So now instead of having only one place where you could get $35 for an article, there were three — then their friends told friends, and gradually you could make a living at it."

The Core still resonates for the author, whose previous books are *Hip: The History* and *Why Kerouac Matters: The Lessons of* On The Road *(They're Not What You Think).* "My sense of syntax and grammar came from studying Greek and Latin at the College," Leland says. "I met the smartest people I know at Columbia, and a lot of them are still my friends."

Two of Leland's elderly subjects have passed away since the book was published, but he is still in contact with the other four. Making and maintaining those connections are part of what made *Happiness* so special to him, and he credits the elders for helping him reconcile the difficulties of his own mother's aging process. "The work I've done in the past was more intellect books; this is more of a heart book," he says. "This was a life-changing experience for me. I learned to be more matter-of-fact about death, and to understand that accepting death is to live more richly.

"This year that's been more valuable to me than ever," Leland adds. "The news has been so upsetting night after night. My time with the elders has helped me put it in perspective. We're going to endure, my friendships will endure, love will endure, beauty, companionship — these are the things I live for day to day."



We Do Our Part: Toward a Fairer and More Equal America by *Charles Peters '49.* Peters, a Washington, D.C., journalist for 60-plus years and the founder of *Washington Monthly,* suggests that if Americans want to revive the can-do spirit of the New Deal era, we need to demand it of ourselves and of our elected officials (Random House, $27).

The Girl from Guantanamo by *Donald Roth '56.* In this work of historical fiction set in 1958 Cuba, 18-year-old Pilar Ruiz goes from early life on a sugar farm to becoming a revolutionary heroine. Roth's interest in the time period stems from his time as a Navy officer present at the turning point of the Cuban revolution (SelectBooks, $22.95).

Hospitable Planet: Faith, Action, and Climate Change by *Stephen Jurovics '58.* In an effort to inspire readers who are motivated by faith as well as science, this book addresses the physical evidence of climate change while demonstrating through biblical teachings the religious imperative for preserving the natural world (Morehouse Publishing, $18.95).

The Piketty Problem or The Robots Are Coming, The Robots Are Coming by *Garth Hallberg '64.* In this satire about economics and present-day American politics, a McDonald's franchise owner replaces human workers in his 26 restaurants with "McRobots" (The Reason For Everything, $13.50).

The Trial of Patrolman Thomas Shea by *Thomas Hauser '67.* In 1973, 10-year-old Clifford Glover was shot and killed; NYPD officer Thomas Shea was charged with his murder. Originally released in 1980, the book includes a new afterword from the author demonstrating that institutionalized racism remains (Seven Stories Press, $17.95).

Freud's Trip to Orvieto: The Great Doctor's Unresolved Confrontation with Antisemitism, Death, and Homoeroticism; His Passion for Paintings; and the Writer in His Footsteps by *Nicolas Fox Weber '69.* The author considers an incident in which Sigmund Freud, a year after visiting an Italian cathedral, could not recall the name of the artist who created the paintings of male nudes he'd seen there. Freud's analysis of his own inability to remember — the "Signorelli parapraxis" — is now a principle in the study of repressed memory (Bellevue Literary Press, $26.99).

The Dicer's Cup by *Bill Christophersen '71.* Christophersen's second book of poetry is a mix of free and formal verse, describing subjects such as traveling through Scotland, battling a stormy surf and coping with a grandmother's suicide (Kelsay Books, $17).

Eye Chart (Object Lessons) by *William Germano '72. Eye Chart* is a series of short, artfully designed books about the hidden lives of ordinary things; Germano kicks off his exploration of the eye chart with a deceptively simple question: "What can you see?" (Bloomsbury Academic, $14.95).

Tales from Webster's: The Verminous Resuscitator and The Monsignor in the Zoot Suit by *John Shea '74.* The author's "tales" are a clever literary form he invented: Take a dictionary, choose a word, then faithfully follow each sequential word to construct a narrative. Each story uses at least five key words, and no more than 50 words of connective text (Livingston Press, $14.95).

Dirty War: Rhodesia and Chemical Biological Warfare 1975–1980 by *Glenn Cross '85.* The author, who works for the U.S. government on issues of weapons of mass destruction, provides a comprehensive look at Rhodesia's top-secret use of chemical and biological weapons during its long counterinsurgency against native African nationalists (Helion and Co., $39.95).

Signs and Wonders: 100 Haggada Masterpieces by *Adam Cohen '86.* This is the first work to survey the history of the illustrated Passover haggada — an important text in the Jewish tradition — from the Middle Ages to contemporary times (The Toby Press, $39.95).

The Book of Separation by *Tova Mirvis '95.* This memoir describes the first year that follows Mirvis' decision to leave her marriage and her tight-knit Orthodox Jewish community to forge a new life for herself and her children (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $26).

The King Is Always Above the People: Stories by *Daniel Alarcón '99.* Alarcón is a professor at the Journalism School; his new book is a collection of stories about immigration, broken dreams, Los Angeles gang members, Latin-American families and high-stakes journeys (Riverhead Books, $27).

This Love Story Will Self-Destruct by *Leslie Cohen '06.* Eve, an arty dreamer, and Ben, an orderly engineer, navigate the winding journey of their 20s from first jobs, first dates and first breakups to first reunions, first betrayals and first love (Gallery Books, $16).

— Jill C. Shomer

SUBMIT YOUR BOOK TO CCT

Alums! Have you written a book in the last year? Tell us about it!

college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_bookshelf



JORG MEYER

From the Big Top to a Big Apple Podcast

By Jill C. Shomer

Before he was a podcaster, author and travel blogger, **Tom Meyers '97** was a ringmaster. He was putting on shows from an early age; in eighth grade, he started a neighborhood circus in his hometown of Bellevue, Ohio: The Bellevue Hippodrome and All-American Super Circus. "By high school, we had a trapeze and a tightrope in the backyard," Meyers says. "We even had a llama — my dad was the district attorney in our county and the judge was a gentleman farmer who collected exotic animals."

The Super Circus only played in Bellevue one day a year, but hundreds of people came. And when it was time for Meyers to apply to college, there was no question what the topic of his essay would be. "I'm convinced that's why I got into Columbia," he says with a laugh. "After I was admitted to the College, I went to a Days on Campus event. I was at a reception chatting with someone in Admissions; I mentioned the circus and she said, 'Oh my God, you're Circus Boy!'"

As a student, Meyers enjoyed film classes with Andrew Sarris '51, GSAS'98 and Annette Insdorf, was on the *Spectator* staff and played Tobias in a production of *Sweeney Todd*. He knew he wanted to study in Paris, and he spent a year and a half at Reid Hall. "I was allowed to stay longer if I declared a French major, so I did," he says. "It was a non-traditional path but it was also kind of like, 'I gotta do what I gotta do.' I guess I've had that approach to many things — I wanted my future to be something that I crafted."

Craft it he has. Meyers is the co-founder of the popular NYC history podcast "The Bowery Boys." The weekly audio show, which has covered topics from the construction of the Empire State Building to a culinary history of the Lower East Side, gets 400,000

CCT Print Extras

Tune in on April 27 to hear The Bowery Boys' podcast about Spring '68. Go to college.columbia.edu/cct.

iTunes downloads a month. In 2016, he and co-founder Greg Young released a Bowery Boys book, *Adventures in Old New York*.

Meyers developed an interest in urban history while studying in Paris. He had an idea to start a tourism company there that would have exchange students give walking tours to American tourists, but he was rejected by the Chamber of Commerce. He returned to New York City to walk with his class.

After graduation, Meyers worked at an internet startup and began developing a travel website, EuroCheapo, where he recommended the best super-cheap places to stay in Europe's most expensive cities. He got the seed money when another company bought the domain of his company's original name, Antsy Pants ("In the late '90s, it didn't matter that that name had nothing to do with travel, as long as it was cute!"). He was paid $20,000 for a domain he'd registered for around $50. Meyers quit his job and moved to Berlin, where he launched EuroCheapo in 2001.

"We provided the kind of information that at that time people were mostly getting from guidebooks like *Let's Go* or *Lonely Planet*," he says. EuroCheapo still exists, but since people research trips and book hotels so differently now, the site has adjusted its focus. As the editor-in-chief, Meyers employs bloggers all over Europe who give general tips on how to save money.

Meyers moved back to the New York City area in 2002. Five years later, he and Young, a longtime family friend, started to consider making a radio show. It was an idea they had always played around with, and since Young was working as a drama columnist at the time, they thought they'd do something about NYC theater. "In 2007, podcasts were just starting to get some traction," Meyers says. "Greg had a new Mac that had an application called Garage Band; we wanted to see what it did so we decided to record something that night. We looked out the window and there was Canal Street, so we said, 'Let's just talk about Canal Street,'" he says. "We called it 'NYC Cast' then. It was off the top of our heads — no research, just shenanigans. Quality control did not exist." They submitted the podcast to iTunes, then recorded another show the following week. "We just wanted to experiment to see if it could gain any momentum," he says.

Meyers and Young chose relatively easy topics, scraping together research where they could. "But as we started gaining an audience, we realized we had a responsibility to improve the quality," Meyers says. "We tried to record every week; sometimes it was biweekly, for a few years it was monthly, but we never stopped doing it. This summer it will be 11 years," he says. "We've developed a relationship with our listeners, and they expect us to be there no matter what's happening in the world."

Meyers, who lives in Maplewood, N.J., with his husband, Guillaume Normand, their infant son, Julien, two cats and a beagle, is excited about The Bowery Boys' future. "The podcast officially went weekly last fall, and it's been a little hectic — you've got a product going out the door and you're already looking at the next one," he says. "Fortunately, New York just keeps giving us fascinating stories to tell. It's the subject that never sleeps!"

Diversifying the Business of Cannabis

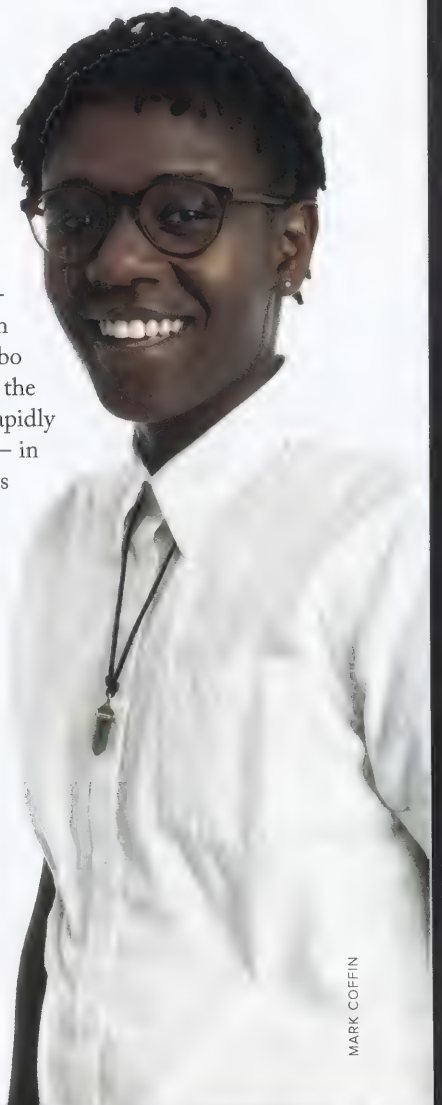
By Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09

One day in late January, **Ebele Ifedigbo '10** was prepping for a panel appearance at the Yale Business School on the legal cannabis industry, doing a phone interview with *Fast Company* and writing grants — all while handling the day-to-day business of keeping a nonprofit humming along. Ifedigbo is the co-founder of The Hood Incubator, an organization that is fighting to bring the economic benefits of the legal marijuana industry to underserved communities. Named to *Forbes*' "30 Under 30" list in November in the Social Entrepreneurs category, Ifedigbo is working to ensure that, as marijuana laws change across the country, low-income black and brown communities receive equal business opportunities and consideration.

Ifedigbo grew up in Buffalo, N.Y., where their (Ifedigbo uses the gender-neutral pronouns "they/them") father took them on regular drives in the city, noting the predatory behavior of rent-to-own businesses, payday lenders and check-cashing places. "My dad would point out all these different businesses that, instead of nurturing the community, were just taking the resources that people already didn't have — places that just charge poor people exorbitant rates for basic services and basic goods," says Ifedigbo. "That's when I started to think of business as something that could either help or harm a community."

Those early experiences spurred them to study economics at the College and also sparked an interest in finding ways to create wealth and economic sustainability in struggling communities. In the years after graduation, Ifedigbo watched as attitudes toward the legal marijuana industry began rapidly changing in the United States — in 2013, recreational marijuana was illegal nationwide; by February 2018, nine states and Washington, D.C., had legalized it. They realized there was huge opportunity in the fast-growing industry.

"Who's been most negatively affected by the war on drugs?" asks Ifedigbo, a 2016 graduate of Yale Business School. "The same people from my community who I grew up with — they're the ones who were being arrested, going to jail, having families torn apart because of marijuana prohibi-



MARK COFFIN

tion. So it made sense to me that now that marijuana is being legalized, the people who have taken on most of the risks and most of the consequences from it being illegal should be first in line to get the benefits."

Founded in Oakland, Calif., in 2016, The Hood Incubator quickly moved to address barriers (such as lack of capital, real estate, professional networks and formalized business startup

"I started to think of business as something that could either help or harm a community."

experience) to black and brown ownership of legal marijuana businesses. The organization — which has four employees — takes a three-pronged approach, focusing on community organizing (hosting legal, wellness and financial clinics), policy advocacy and economic development.

The organization is working to ensure that as marijuana laws change nationwide, "they actually meet the interests of communities of color, not as an add-on or an afterthought, but at the core of whatever legislation is happening," says Ifedigbo. The Hood Incubator played a role in Oakland's spring 2017 passing of the cannabis Equity Permit Program, which prioritizes black and brown inclusion in the legal cannabis business. Says Ifedigbo, "[It was] the first of its kind in the nation — really focusing on racial equity as part and parcel of the marijuana industry in the city of Oakland."

The Hood Incubator is perhaps best known for its economic development work: a business accelerator program and an apprenticeship program. The first cohort of the accelerator program graduated last June. The 10 fellows received mentorship, technical assistance, business education and access to cannabis industry resources; Ifedigbo themselves guided participants through creating business plans and running business models. Of the 10 graduates, nine are still actively engaged in the industry — six working on their businesses and three employed within the industry. The next cohort will begin in mid-2018.

Ifedigbo says of the whirlwind year, "When I was in business school I had a commitment in my heart that this is what I wanted to do. But when I came to Oakland I was sleeping on a couch — I didn't know whether I would be here for just six weeks or what would happen … throughout the year we just had that traction and people really took to our mission and our work. It's a validation and an encouragement."

Policymaker Emily Broad Leib '03 Gives Thought to Food

By Alexis Boncy SOA'11

To hear lawyer and national food policy leader **Emily Broad Leib '03** tell it, we'd do better to sniff our milk than study the sell-by date to determine whether it's still OK to drink. And milk is hardly the only product to have confusing date labels.

"Every state has this mayhem of different laws that make no sense," says Broad Leib. The language varies — there's also *Use by*, *Best by* and *Better if used by*, to name a few — and the standards are inconsistent, tied more often to food freshness than safety, and not grounded in science. Consumers frequently misinterpret what the labels mean, to boot.

"Sending food to landfills is bad for the environment. And if you're throwing away food that's still perfectly safe, it's also a big waste of money for households," she says. Plus, many states restrict or ban the sale or donation of foods that have passed their expiration dates — all of which contributes to one of Broad Leib's oft-cited statistics: 40 percent of the food produced in the United States goes to waste each year.

Broad Leib has built a career — and helped build an entire field of law — out of untangling and advocating for improvements to the laws and policies that govern America's food system. *Fortune* and *Food & Wine* named her one of 2016's Most Innovative Women in Food and Drink. An assistant clinical professor of law at Harvard, she is the founder and director of the Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic, the first organization in the nation dedicated to these issues. Since 2015, she has organized an annual conference that's helped raise the field's profile with law students nationwide.

The Harvard Law graduate traces her interest in food policy to a fellowship in rural Mississippi, where she connected with a small group of farmers on the Delta. Despite being an agricultural region, food largely wasn't being produced for human consumption; its residents — "a very vulnerable, low-income community" — struggled with limited options when it came to supermarkets and other sources of food. "There was this fledgling movement of farmers markets and they had a lot of questions," she says.

"There weren't any lawyers who knew about this space, but there were a whole lot of food producers and community members out there trying to set up structures to sell and buy healthier food, local food," Broad Leib adds. "They needed someone to advise them and say: 'Here are the things you need to know, here's what you are allowed to sell, here's where the laws in your state are tailored to you.'"

Out of her Mississippi work, which she continued through the Harvard clinic, came a how-to guide for growers looking to start and participate in farmers markets. She also helped the Mississippi



COURTESY SEN. RICHARD BLUMENTHAL'S OFFICE

Emily Broad Leib '03 at a May 2016 press conference announcing a federal bill, sponsored by Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn., next to Leib), to standardize date labels on food.

Food Policy Council pass seven pieces of state law (one, for example, exempted food sold at farmers markets from being taxed). "My work has been a mix of helping people understand the laws, so they don't have to hire an expensive law firm to figure them out, but also saying: 'This law doesn't make sense; I'll bet if you get together and talk to some of the decision makers at your state house about why they're putting a damper on this economic and health opportunity, then you can get this changed,'" Broad Leib says.

While many of her early projects were locally or state based, Broad Leib has shifted her focus during the past few years to also take on federal issues. In the past year she organized a group of faculty from law schools across the country to give input on the Farm Bill — omnibus legislation governing an array of agricultural and food programs — which is up for reauthorization this year.

Policy change at any level of government is "hard and uncertain" work, Broad Leib says. She points to her students as one of her greatest motivators. "A big part of my theory of change is about seeding a generation of energetic young lawyers who'll go on to do this important work.

"Food law and policy is really a nascent field," she adds, "which means there are ample opportunities for new solutions and brainstorming creative approaches."

Which brings her back to those food labels. Broad Leib's goal is a federal law mandating a simplified two-label approach, with all foods getting one or the other. And while she continues to press for change at that level, she notched a success last year partnering with other advocates to pass two pieces of related legislation in California — one to standardize expiration date labels, the other to expand and clarify liability protections for food donations.

"Shifting our focus to states and localities provides a different avenue to effect change," she says. "And that still moves us closer to our ultimate goal of a sustainable food system that provides for all."

CCT Print Extras

To watch a film about Broad Leib's trip to Montana to do a case study on the state's restrictive date-labeling law, go to **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

newsmakers

On February 12, The National Portrait Gallery unveiled its official painting of President **Barack Obama '83.**

Rujeko Hockley '05 was chosen to co-curate the Whitney Biennial, opening spring 2019.

Activist **Ai-Jen Poo '96** attended the Golden Globes as Meryl Streep's guest.

Photographer **Damon Winter '97** was featured in *The New York Times'* "The Year in Pictures," a roundup of the best photos of 2017.

Michael Wolff '75 released his *New York Times* bestseller, *Fire and Fury: Inside the Trump White House*, on January 5.

Robert K. Kraft '63, owner of the New England Patriots, appeared at Super Bowl LII, held on February 4 in Minneapolis; his team lost 41–33 to the Philadelphia Eagles.

Andrea F. Young '06, GSAS'12 received the 2018 New Horizons Prize in Fundamental Physics, known as the "Oscars of science."

Rep. **Jerry Nadler '69** (D-N.Y.) was chosen on December 20 as the next leader of the House Judiciary Committee.

Jeff Witten '10, LAW'15, BUS'15 appeared on the TV show *Shark Tank* on February 18 to promote his digital wallet business, CoinOut.

Brandon Victor Dixon '07 starred as Judas in the NBC live television performance of *Jesus Christ Superstar* on Easter, April 1. **Jin Ha '13** also appeared in the production, as Annas.

Dan Futterman '89 is the executive producer of the new Hulu original series *The Looming Tower*.

On February 22, chef **Anita Lo '88** co-hosted a vegetarian dinner at the South Beach Wine and Food Festival as part of *The New York Times* Cooking Dinner Series.

Eli Bush '09 took home a Golden Globe for his work as a producer of *Lady Bird* when the film won in the Best Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy category.

classnotes



WILL CSAPLAR '57, BUS'58 POSTCARD COLLECTION, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

THE EARLY DAYS OF EARL HALL: Shown here in an undated postcard, Earl Hall, designed by McKim, Mead & White, was constructed between 1900 and 1902.

1940

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Milton Kamen (Twitter: @miltkamen) writes, "When asked about my longevity, I explain: Reading obituaries, I realize so many have accomplished so much and I so little that dying would be very embarrassing for me, so I keep putting it off as long as possible."

Please consider sharing your story, news or even a favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either the email address or postal address at the top of the column. Classmates would be pleased to hear about you, too!

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of *CCT* prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of *CCT*, its class correspondents, the College or the University. By submitting to Class Notes, you acknowledge that the text is eligible to appear in print as well as on *CCT* Online and in archives.

1941

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

No news this quarter! Please consider sharing your story, an update or even a favorite Columbia College memory. You can send it to either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1942

Melvin Hershkowitz
22 Northern Ave.
Northampton, MA 01060-2310
DrMelvin23@gmail.com

With sadness, but with gratitude for his long and productive life, I am sorry to report the death of my lifelong and dear friend, Ray Robinson '41, on November 1, 2017, after a massive stroke, which occurred at home in his sleep, thus sparing Ray from any end-of-life suffering. I met Ray in 1939 at the *Jester* offices on fourth floor of John Jay. He was a talented cartoonist before he became a famous author and biographer, and was submitting his cartoons to *Jester* while I was trying to write stories under my *nom de plume* of Chadwick Spencer.

Later, Ray and I sat in adjacent seats in Hamilton Hall in Professor Boris Stanfield's class on Soviet Agricultural Economics, a dull course with a good textbook (Loucks & Hoot: *Comparative Economic Systems: Capitalism, Socialism, Communism, Fascism, Cooperation)*. While Professor Stanfield lectured, Ray drew some funny cartoons, which helped pass the time in this unfortunately dull class.

As the years after WWII unfolded, Ray and I remained close friends, often going with **Gerald Green** and Dr. **Herbert Mark** and our wives to football games at the old Baker Field, Yale, Brown and Harvard, and to pregame tailgate lunches. In my visits to Ray and his wife Phyllis' apartment on East 90th Street, I watched their three children grow to early adulthood, with special memories of Tad, their youngest, dribbling a basketball between his legs and doing acrobatic tumbles for me. After his Army military service in WWII, Ray spent several years as an editor of major magazines, including *Seventeen* and *Good Housekeeping*. He then embarked on his long, productive career as an author of biographies and sports history, producing more than 30 books and many famous magazine essays. His 1990 biography of Lou Gehrig (Class of 1923), *Iron Horse: Lou Gehrig in His Time,* remains among his most acclaimed works. Learning about ALS while writing the Gehrig biography, Ray became an ALS Association Board of Directors member and prolific fundraiser for the ALS Association Greater New York Chapter. His 2003 book, *Famous Last Words: Fond Farewells, Deathbed Diatribes, Exclamations Upon Expiration*, a compendium of final comments by famous people before their deaths, has had multiple printings. Ray gave me an autographed copy of this book with the inscription, "To Mel, a dear friend who never gave me bad advice."

Phyllis, a brilliant Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Vassar, died in March 2017 after a long struggle with Alzheimer's disease. She wrote an acclaimed biography of Willa Cather and was a senior editor for the Book-of-the Month Club. In my Perpetual Calendar, there is a note that on November 20, 1982, at the last football game at the old Baker Field, I sat with Ray and **Gerald Green** as we watched Columbia lose to Brown 35–21.

Ray is survived by his son Steve, a retired sports writer and ESPN executive; his daughter, Nancy Miringoff SW'76, a social worker and therapist; his son Tad, an international rhythm and blues singer; and four grandchildren. [Editor's note: See Obituaries, Winter 2017–18.]

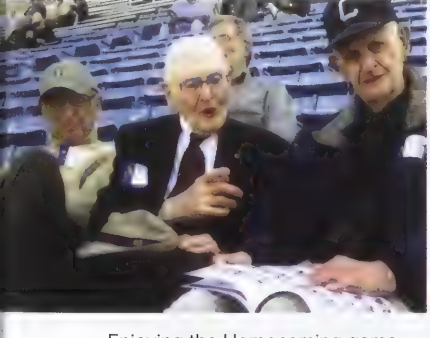
Dr. **Gerald Klingon** (97), calls me every evening to discuss Columbia affairs (mostly sports), national politics, books we are reading (he got me started on Ron Chernow's *Alexander Hamilton*) and family news. Along with **Stewart McIlvennan** LAW'48 (96), Gerry is the oldest surviving member of our Great Class of 1942.

Stew is confined to a wheelchair in an assisted-care facility near his home in Colorado. His devoted wife, Marie BC'47, visits him daily, and in December 2017 she sent us her end-of-year annual report on the McIlvennan family. At Columbia, Stew was a star, with the affectionate nickname "Snuffy," and a varsity basketball player. In WWII, Stew was a Naval officer on a destroyer in the Pacific campaigns. His ship was alongside the Battleship *U.S.S. Missouri*, on which Gen. Douglas MacArthur accepted the Japanese surrender to end WWII. After WWII, Stew attended the Law School, worked at the FBI and then began a long successful career as VP of a large national commercial trucking firm. He told me that one of his notable accomplishments was his successful negotiations with the notorious, and eventually murdered, Jimmy Hoffa, head of the Teamsters.

Best wishes to Stew, Marie and their family in Colorado.

I remain in touch with the widows of three of our most distinguished classmates: Marlene Green in Boca Raton, Fla., and New Canaan, Conn. (widow of **Gerald Green**, died 2006); Avra Mark in Tuckahoe, N.Y. (widow of Dr. **Herbert Mark**, died 2006) and Susan Kaufman in Scarsdale, N.Y. (widow of **Robert Kaufman**, died 2016). Despite their advanced ages and various ailments, Marlene, Avra and Susan are functioning well and remain interested in Columbia events. Gerald was editor of *Jester*. He wrote 21 novels, including *The Last Angry Man*, made into a film with star Paul Muni, and the acclaimed *Holocaust*, an award-winning TV presentation of that book of the same name. He was an NBC executive producer and originator of the *Today* morning news show, with Dave Garroway. Herbert was chief of the department of medicine at James J. Peters VA Medical Center (Bronx, N.Y.), professor of medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and a VP of the American Heart Association. Robert was VP and legal counsel for the ABC TV network, where (with Roone Arledge '52) he created the televising of the Olympic Games and *Monday Night Football*. Gerry, Herb and Bob were my wonderful lifelong friends, exemplary of Columbia's excellence and enduring impact on society.

Long May Columbia Stand!



Enjoying the Homecoming game versus Dartmouth at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium on October 20, 2012, were, left to right, Ray Robinson '41, Dr. Melvin Hershkowitz '42 and Dr. Gerald Klingon '42.

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

BC	Barnard College
BUS	Columbia Business School
CP	Pharmaceutical Sciences
DM	College of Dental Medicine
GS	School of General Studies
GSAPP	Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
HN	Institute of Human Nutrition
JRN	Graduate School of Journalism
JTS	Jewish Theological Seminary
LAW	Columbia Law School
LS	Library Service
NRS	School of Nursing
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
PS	College of Physicians and Surgeons
SEAS	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SOA	School of the Arts
SPS	School of Professional Studies
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College
UTS	Union Theological Seminary

1943

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2

Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu

Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

G.J. D'Angio
201 S. 18th St., #1818
Philadelphia, PA 19103
dangio@earthlink.net

My wife and I were in Covington, Ky., in early November to attend the 175th anniversary celebration of Trinity Episcopal Church. My son is the rector there. A most pleasant weekend.

Unpleasant news: I had my pocket picked in November. Such a nuisance, changing credit cards and so on. That was just a few days before leaving for Maine for a family reunion on Thanksgiving Day. That went well nonetheless. Most of the members of the D'Angio clan were present, the occasion enlivened by my two great-grandchildren, Maggie (4) and Charlie (2).

My anemia remains well-corrected, and the physio-prescribed exercises have made a difference. I walk straighter and have better use of my right arm plagued by rotator cuff disabilities.

Christmas went by as we had hoped: quietly at home without fuss.

Bernie Weisberger and I have pledged to attend our 75th reunion. Hope to see some of you there, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2. It should be a grand, unique affair for us '43ers.

A Columbia nugget: The beatniks were well represented during our Columbia years. Jack Kerouac '44 played football his freshman year and broke a leg. He returned the next year but was benched by Lou Little because he was too argumentative. He never finished school. Allen Ginsberg '48 came a little later but the two knew each other on campus. Any '43-er remember either of them? Write me a note.

From **Bernie Weisberger:** "Dear Dan: When I finished my last letter, I had just been reminded of what an ancient I am becoming by the occurrence of my son's 65th birthday. Surveying my infrequently kept diary, I see nothing much marking the remainder of the months of October and November except a lot of medical appointments, mainly just to keep the machine running — ophthalmologist, dentist, podiatrist, primary care physician — all, luckily for me, for routine maintenance. I'm reminded that when Jacques Barzun '27, GSAS'32 was interviewed on either his 100th birthday or an even later one, he complained chiefly about how much time he spent in doctors' offices. I am not complaining, however, considering the alternative.

"What I do find hard these days is to deal with the sullen weight on my spirits of realizing each day that Donald Trump really is the President of these United States and will remain so for the foreseeable future, during which the harm he does to democratic government at home and to our standing and reputation in the world becomes more and more dismaying and hard to undo. I never intended to talk politics in Class Notes, which doesn't seem an appropriate forum for the subject, but it's impossible to avoid its impact on everyone's mental health (I should, of course, not say 'everyone'). The issue for me and most of the people I know is how to stay engaged in resistance within the physical and other limits of old age but leave breathing space, time to let go of it and flee to recreations — books, movies, time with friends, hobbies, arts — with an occasional nip of ardent spirits, if you're inclined that way. What works best for me is plugging away at a memoir of my life in the 20-odd years after the war, mainly for friends and family and my own escapist pleasure of writing without a deadline or a space limit.

"I'm pushing space limits at this point, so will only report that my wife, Rita, left in mid-December to spend the winter in a vacation rental apartment in Miami, a prudent decision in view of what's going on with the weather. I've chosen to stay here close to my work, but visited her for the holiday season, and recently returned from balmy daily temperatures to single digits and snowy sidewalks that are booby traps for we who walk with canes, unless we're very prudent (a definition that I'm sure describes us remaining Class of '43 folks). Come to the reunion to join Dan and me if you can."

[Editor's note: Go to "The Last Word" for a conversation between Dr. **G.J. "Dan" D'Angio** and **Bernie Weisberger.**]



Contact CCT

Update your address, email or phone; submit a Class Note, new book, photo, obituary or Letter to the Editor; or send us an email. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

1944

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

No word from classmates this time! Please consider sharing your story, news or even a favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1945

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

No news to share in this issue! Please consider sharing info about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. You can use either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1946

Bernard Sunshine
165 W. 66th St., Apt. 12G
New York, NY 10023
bsuns1@gmail.com

A fine email from **Burton Sapin** GSAS'47: "I am still living in the south Florida retirement community I moved to almost eight years ago. I lost my wife, Judy, more than two years ago but have found sweet companionship since then.

"My main contribution to the community is running a biweekly current events discussion group, usually getting 15–20 participants. Everyone seems to like it. I enrich my own mind with a superb American foreign policy course that one of the local professors offers as a lifelong learning class.

"I had the fun experience recently of finding a short unpublished book I wrote in the late 1990s on U.S.-Japan relations. Several friends have read and liked it. Even I was a bit surprised by some of the stuff in it.

"As with most of us, children and grandchildren provide lots of pleasure. Daughter Julia Sapin teaches art history at Western Washington University. A full professor and department chair, she specializes in Japanese art beginning with the Meiji restoration. She gave a lecture at Columbia a couple of years ago (a longtime colleague teaches Japanese art history), but I was unable to draw attention to another Sapin on campus.

"My son, David, is a senior partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers and therefore spends a lot of time in New York City while still living in a Washington, D.C., suburb.

"David has four very nice children and Julie has one. David's oldest is now on the sports department staff of the University of Miami."

From time to time I get communications saying how much the writer looks forward to reading news about classmates. Don't be bashful. Send me your news (interesting travel, recommended reading, family happenings and so on), short or long. Your classmates want to hear from you.

1947

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Allen S. Brower SEAS'48 writes: "I was an accidental member of the Class of '47. I arrived at Columbia with a four-year scholarship to study electrical engineering. At that time admission to the Engineering School followed two years in the College (or equivalent elsewhere). I subsequently learned of the Professional Option (now the 3-2 Program), and having completed two years' study in 14 months due to the wartime accelerated schedule plus the 1945 summer transition term, decided to spend the extra year in the College before entering the Engineering School. I have never regretted that choice. I graduated with the Class of '47, received a B.S in engineering in 1948 and continued study for a master's (1950) facilitated by appointment first as a graduate assistant and then four years as an instructor in electrical engineering. After nine years on campus, in 1953 I left to join General Electric in Schenectady, N.Y.

"I married a Barnard graduate, Carol Ann BC'49 (née Collyer), in St. Paul's Chapel the morning after she graduated. We spent the next 36 years, all of them in Schenectady and nearby Burnt Hills, raising three children and enjoying time with seven grandchildren; all three families live within 10 miles of our home. I retired from GE in 1989 and have spent the years since serving on and leading community, library and church boards. My liberal arts education has served me

well, both in my engineering work and in retirement. It's been a satisfying life, all 91 years."

CCT, and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you, too. Please consider sharing news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1948

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Dr. **Sidney Fink** PS'52, who lives in Hampton, Va., checked in: "I recently passed 90 years of age and am still able to swim, run (a short distance) and paddle. I remember our class being in a hurry to make up for Army time and being delighted by the way our football team won. Two Army veterans gave us a sparkling football team, which probably has not scored as many touchdowns since. My special gift from P&S was a love for the writings of Marcus Aurelius, which helped me greatly when I lost my two dear wives to illness and used his advice to recover. P&S gave me a career as a gastroenterologist, which was very gratifying. My current activities include dancing, hiking, bridge/Mahjongg when the weather is bad and reading. Not to mention keeping up with my children, grandchildren and great-grandbabies."

CCT, and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you, too. Please consider sharing news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.

1949

John Weaver
2639 E. 11th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11235
wudchpr@gmail.com

OK, here we are in spring 2018 and, having passed the "milestone" back in January, I am fairly certain we are all nonagenarians! While my family provided a genuinely surprising party to mark the occasion, I suspect most of us all feel the same — it's just another day with knees reminding us of how long they have been serving us, and thankful to be able to enjoy another sunrise.

Two letters arrived in the week just immediately preceding the deadline for this column — just in time to prevent me from sending another cry for help! The remarkable fact that we beat Army 21–20 (thank you, **Gene Rossides, Bill Swiacki** and **Lou Kusserow**), is featured in the following recollections coming from far and near:

Burton Sapin '46 says, "I had the fun experience recently of finding a short unpublished book I wrote in the late 1990s on U.S.-Japan relations."

Arizona and Manhattan. **Richard Sachs** does provide an interesting insight regarding the Army's ability to recruit talent unavailable to most everyone else. **Larry Carino** shares a sketch of his CV and, I have written of this often, his profound awareness of the extraordinary gift of our common Columbia College preparation for life in a challenging world. I quote the letters completely because it provides a deep sense of connection, which I felt upon receiving them and I hope you will as well.

From **Richard Sachs:** "The following is a copy of a letter I sent to *The New York Times* a week or so after the CC winning streak ended. It wasn't published, but I did receive a comment from one of their sports writers. The *Times* piece I reacted to was painfully inane. Few remember that Army's winning streak was generated during the war, when most college-age men over 17 were in uniform and Army had a monopoly of talent. [The letter reads:] 'I was saddened by your piece in today's *NYT* about the joys of losing. I am a '49 alumnus who was present in the decaying Baker Field when we beat 32-game unbeaten Army 21–20. It was on a par with Bobby Thomson's pennant-winning homer in 1951 and other heard-round-the world underdog victories. Everyone at the game, on campus, and beyond went beyond wild. We celebrated my classmate **Gene Rossides,** his receiver **Bill Swiacki,** and point-after kicker **Lou Kusserow** for decades. I still cite that game to my grandchildren as one of the great moments in sports.'"

From **Larry Carino:** "It was interesting to read your comments about the lack of news about our dear Class of 1949 because, while I am as guilty as the rest, I had often thought the same as you as I leafed through the various quarterlies. So I'll ask the inevitable question: Does anyone have any idea how many of us there are still around and living it up? I've so often thought of my days at Columbia and the very valuable start in adult life it thrust upon us. Unfortunately, I was always downtown working after College days ended, but still think about those days in class and out. Because of my situation I particularly remember the many enjoyable nights at the Sigma Chi house.

"Since those also glorious days (remember when our football team knocked off Army with that soaking wet pass from Rossides to Swiacki?) and through my working days I spent my life in television broadcasting in management. Briefly, I toiled for three different owners from the Seattle/Tacoma market to New Orleans (and the Jesuit fathers) to my eventual retirement from Storer Broadcasting in Detroit. Let me say that my working days were more entertaining and a good time than hard work. They were truly glorious times, when one could create while participating in the community and, like **George Intemann,** politics. In my case politics was a very important part of my life, and that too was fun and certainly enjoyable. During those years I found time to raise eight children, all of whom are doing well and making me proud. I know — not what you were expecting to hear from those of us elder citizens, but, in a nutshell, there I am: proud and thankful for the start of a great life from good old alma mater, Columbia University. Oh, there are things we all would probably change but there she is, still strong and proud of her many accomplishments. I too would like to hear from some of the good ol' boys."

Thank you both for your correspondence. Please, all you other guys who have benched yourselves on the sidelines, give us a shout. We are fortunate to be moving about and are a force of support and reason with historic perspective. The younger generations do respect us in their understanding that we have a shared experience as we emerged from childhood as freshmen to adulthood as graduating seniors, and seniors in fact.

Just the reassurance that we are here is meaningful.

1950

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

From **Joseph "Bud" Kassel:** "My Class Note is not on a very upbeat tone. My wife, Ruth, and I have entered the Wake Robin retirement community a year sooner than planned because Ruth had a stroke last summer. She is in the skilled nursing section and I am in a cottage some five minutes away. I hope we will be cohabitating if the healing/recovery process improves, but the process is slow and the prognosis questionable.

"We do have evening meals together in the main dining room and are meeting any number of very interesting, enjoyable residents; among them is **Arthur Westing** and his wife, Carol.

"My own ego was destroyed earlier this year when Vail purchased the Stowe ski area, and the Stowe Ski Host program was severely curtailed: I was downsized and out, a real blow after some 23 years, when I was hoping to be the first 90-year-old Ski Host. But so it goes and I'm finding caretaking duties to be very reward-

ing, plus not requiring me to be out in sub-freezing weather at times."

CCT thanks Bud for reaching out, and wishes all members of the Class of 1950 a pleasant spring.

1951

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

News from former CC'51 class correspondent **George Koplinka:** "I sold my home in White Plains, N.Y., and have moved, along with my wife, Peg, a graduate of NYU and TC, to a retirement community in Middlebury, Vt.

"Vermont is a wonderful state for retirement. We continue to own our summer home at Long Point in Ferrisburgh, Vt. It is a wonderful place to share boating activities on Lake Champlain with our five children, 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren."

We also heard from **Ernest H. von Nardroff** GSAS'66: "It's late in the day [as I write this], but here are three reasonably still vivid CC memories: Mark Van Doren GSAS 1921, staring out the window, weeping gently as he mused on the end of *Don Quixote.* An impromptu car trip to Hanover, where a ragtag group of some five or six of us band members marched at halftime during the Dartmouth game, to the deafening, ironic cheers of the home crowd Professor/composer Douglas Moore, after playing something of Bach on the piano, saying simply, 'Isn't that gorgeous?!' There are others, of course, but not as nice and neat."

David Kettler GSAS'60 sent a few notes, too, which we have combined forthwith: "Not much has changed since my report of a year ago. I remain on the faculty at Bard College as research professor in political studies, charged with giving an occasional course and supervising a number of the yearlong senior thesis projects required of all students: This semester's announced course is on the puzzle of building in a measure of assurance that states will not act in defiance of knowledgeable consensus on matters of the highest importance — not an abstract subject in 2018, even if the language is a little complicated. My thesis supervisions cover Chinese foreign policy from Panmunjon to Bandung, 'Dependency and Independence in Puerto Rico' and American rejection of the International Criminal Court.

"My own Columbia-associated project, finally completed, is a long book on Franz L. Neumann, whose course on 'Democracy and Dictatorship' in summer 1951 provided the final credits I needed for my B.A. and whose teaching has been a goad and challenge through all these years. There was also a book collecting 10 current articles dealing with Karl Mannheim, of whom I first learned in Columbia classes taught by Professors Walter Metzger and Aaron Frankel.

"Leaving aside time spent watching television and movies, reading novels and napping, as well as visits to daughters and families, mostly on the West Coast, I favor riverboat excursions with Viking — notwithstanding its advertisements — having traveled with them on the Elbe, the Rhine, the Seine and a water route between Moscow and St. Petersburg. This year, my wife, Janet, and I are scheduled for the Dnieper River, on which my grandfather traded and on the banks of which my father was born.

"Letters like this are hardly the medium for political talk. Maybe next year, after the November elections, I'll find something to say in language suited to this genteel setting.

"P.S. As I look over this letter, having slept on it, I fear that it sounds boastful. Still, classmates may well be glad that I do not list the familiar hours spent in the waiting rooms and offices of doctors, the fistfuls of dubious daily 'meds,' the stumbling gait, the blanks of current memory and rambling recollections — which go without saying, or drown out the rest, in life as in reporting.

"P.P.S. Then speaking of the genteel Columbia forum, I overlook the language of the instructor in the required Music Humanities course I took in my first year. Standing next to the dignified older professor (and composer) in a room full of first-year students, he gestured past a place in the group and said (in 1948!) 'OK, you motherfuckers, come with me.' He'd been discharged from the Army only recently. He was also an avant garde composer and music critic. If a student responded to a selection of music, when asked, with something about the scenes it evoked, Alvin Baumann (b. 1920) would say, in a soothingly pitched voice, 'Yeah, like a flying fuck at the moon.' We loved him.

"This is what I mean by 'rambling recollections,' I guess.

"I've just looked him up. He was a rather well-known pianist, but disappears after he appears as leader of a group that moved to Chico, Calif., in 1961 in order to escape the nuclear destruction they expected in Long Island. I do not know how he addressed them.

"It's hard to stop, once one starts … The 'gentility' reference has less to do with recollections in this quarterly than with my memory of the 'speech test' required of each incoming student in my time and the requirement to take a remedial course if the test showed signs of lower-class expression. I was faulted for the 'glottal stops' in some of my pronunciations, typical of lower-class Jewish speech in the wider New York area, and consequently obliged to take the class. They caught this fault and not the echoes of the German accent I must have retained from my immigration eight years before, doubtless because they were looking for telltale marks of class and ethnicity that might bring Columbia into disrepute rather than exotic echoes. In any case, our work consisted mostly of speaking into a dictaphone, listening for the sounds to be remedied and doing it again, a heroic precursor of electronic media as educational device. You should hear me say 'Long Island'! (But then, 'You should hear me say' is a sort of New York-ese expression, especially if said melodiously. Incurable!)"

CCT, and your classmates, would enjoy hearing from you, as well! Please consider sharing news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite Columbia College memory. Please contact us by using either the email address or postal address at the top of the column.



In this 1977 photo of the debut of the Lou Little Scholarship Fund, Coach Lou Little is surrounded by Howard Hansen '52, Athletics Director Al Paul GSAS'55 (at left), Gene Rossides '49, Sid Luckman '39 (obscured in photo), Al Barabas '36, Cliff Montgomery '34, Al Ward '53 and President William McGill (at right).

1952

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Happy spring, Class of 1952! Thank you to all who shared notes for this issue; if you would like to be in a future issue please write to one of the addresses at the top of the column.

John Laszlo writes: "Hello friends from long ago; I had a nice experience recently with regard to the Columbia tennis team. During my three years on the team we never came close to winning an Ivy League championship. The current team is very different. Under the leadership of Coach Bid Goswami, they have won the past four Ivy League championships. They had a preseason match in Atlanta with several regional teams and I attended one with the University of Georgia — currently ranked number 4 nationally. To my delight (and amazement) they beat that team, thanks to some remarkable players. Coach introduced me to the team and they were amazed to meet a fossil who played the same sport for Columbia 70 (!) years ago and still plays regularly (with poor movement to be sure). But to watch them, it simply isn't the same game that we played because they are just so much better than any college players of our time."

From **Donald Surr:** "Hi guys, anybody remember me? I remember you and often think back to our undergrad days together. My wife, Claire TC'55, and I are still active and enjoying our later years at a continuing care retirement community, White Horse Village, in Newtown Square, Pa., near Philadelphia. It would be a pleasure to hear from any of you about what you are doing these days. How about sending a brief update to this publication? I would suggest an email, but so many do not identify themselves by name in their email address, which makes us hesitant to open emails that we do not recognize for fear of downloading malware. Shame about that!"

Dudley Ferris reports: "I'm hale and hearty and looking forward to various travels this year."

From **Howard Hansen:** "The kickoff of the Lou Little Scholarship Fund was held at Baker Field during halftime of the Columbia-Penn game in 1977. The following is the lead-up to that very special and significant event.

"Upon Coach Little's retirement (at that time forced at age 65) he retired to Delray Beach, Fla., and I lived in the next town, Boca Raton. It was teammate Al Ward '53 who originated the idea of the Lou Little Scholarship Fund. Al gave me the task to get Coach to come to Columbia for the specific Friday to Sunday weekend and *task* it became as Coach didn't travel anymore due to his health!

"I told the Coach that the weekend plan was in motion — we would fly to LaGuardia airport from Fort Lauderdale on the Friday before the event, then Al would pick us up and we would stay at his residence in New Jersey on Friday and Saturday evenings. On Saturday we would have a special restricted lunch at the Chrystie Field House before the Columbia–Penn game with former players and old New York press friends. The rest is history!

"At halftime, Coach was honored at midfield and presented with a special award by Al Ward. In the nearby photo, he is surrounded by me (**Howard Hansen**), Athletics Director Al Paul GSAS'55 (at left), Columbia Hall of Famers Gene Rossides '49, LAW'52; Sid Luckman '39 (obscured in photo); Al Barabas '36; Cliff Montgomery '34; Al Ward '53; and President William McGill (on right). Interestingly, in this group there are six Columbia University Athletics Hall of Famers. (Not seen in the photo are brothers and teammates Bob Wallace '53 and **Bill Wallace,** who played important Lou Little Scholarship roles.) Columbia beat Penn and Lou Little Day at Columbia was successful.

"Saturday evening Sheila and Al Ward '53 hosted a grand dinner at their residence in honor of Coach. There were a good 20 former players in attendance. John Bateman '38, former line coach, who had just returned from visiting Paul Governali '43 (Maxwell Award winner and Heisman Trophy runner up), told us that Paul was not doing well in a San Diego hospital and was not expected to survive.

"On Sunday (returning to Florida via jet), Coach told me, 'The scholarship fund in my name was the greatest honor I have ever received!' Keep in mind Coach was a two-time All-American tackle at Penn, was captain in the Army infantry and honorably served in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in France in WWI. He subsequently was elected president of the American Football Coaches Association in 1939 and was chairman of the Rules Committee for many years. In 1953, Coach received the Amos Alonzo Stagg Award for his outstanding contributions to American football and in 1960 was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame. Coach's overall football coaching record was 151 wins, 128 loses and 13 ties.

"Prior to Coach's death on May 28, 1979, 200 gifts were made to his scholarship fund; after his death an additional 30 were received. The total gift amount was $488,623. To simplify the impressive growth of this initial gift amount, in the last four years the following scholarship amounts, in total, were shared by four football players each year: $164,000, $172,000, $185,000 and $193,000. As of June 2017, Coach's fund totaled $3,486,563 after the above distribution. It is evaluated every June.

"Coach would be smiling in his grave in Boynton Beach, Fla., if he knew his fund had grown to $3,486,563 after funding significant scholarships to 73 football players over many years.

"Gene and I were at Coach Little's burial in Florida and we spoke during his special memorial on campus at St. Paul's Chapel several months later."

1953

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Lew Robins
3200 Park Ave., Apt. 9C2
Bridgeport, CT 06604
lewrobins@aol.com

Jay Kane sent the following email: "Recently, **Jim Steiner** visited to see the house I designed and built in Darien, Conn., to display much of the sculpture my mother produced over 60–70 years. I bought the land from my son, who is my next door neighbor and is the managing partner of an investment banking firm that he founded in NYC; his other offices are in London, Tokyo and Seoul."

"Jim saw the land — essentially a half acre of rock on the Five Mile River — before I got started on the project five or six years ago. My original plan did not include the sculpture that my son and I were going to display in a separate building. The structure began to appear too far over the horizon to be practical for me to contemplate at this stage in life."

"While my mother's work has been viewed on exhibit in nearly every major museum in the United States by hundreds of thousands of people, she is only known to those few familiar with 20th-century sculputors. This is mainly because she moved her studio to Cos Cob in 1947 when she found that exhibitons were too distracting for her and that her role in life was to craft sculpture and to leave the showing part to others."

I've known Jay since our wonderful highly eventful years at Columbia and never knew that his mother was a world-renowned artist whose scupltures have been exhibited nationwide. Furthermore, Jay reports that President Trump purchased a bronze cast of her sculpture *Torso* that he saw on exhibition in NYC. The bronze cast was a copy of the Cuban Mahogany original, which she carved in 1932. Wow!

Joseph J. Aaron sent the following email: "Time has gone so quickly and I have had a wonderful career. Married for 59 years, my wife, Jane, and I keep ourselves busy and are enjoying retirement with our three children and four grandchildren. I have great memories of my years at Columbia and I hope all is well with classmates."

Bernie Epstein SEAS'58 was inspired to write in after seeing a photo of Columbia alumni at NAB Little Creek in the Winter 2017–18 issue. He writes: "*CCT*'s Class of 1952 column contains an item of interest for me. I was in the Class of 1953 Navy program, commissioned as an ensign in the United States Navy and, at the request of the captain of a ship at NAB Little Creek, reported to his ship as it was sailing imminently. I arrived in time, but missed my class graduation ceremony. At Columbia, Phil Bucklew SIPA'48 was a lieutenant commander and one of my instructors. I had sea duty throughout my career. I sailed in the North Atlantic, Caribbean, Mediterranean (6th Fleet) and the eastern Pacific (7th Fleet) in and out of a port in Sasebo, Japan. Of particular interest for me is that we had embarked with a small detachment of an underwater demotion team headed by a lieutenant (junior grade). I never knew his name. Unfortunately, one dark night in the sea off Korea, we dropped them off in their small rubber raft and never saw them again. They may have been based or spent some time at NAB Little Creek. When my Navy obligation was completed I transferred to the Reserve and then to the inactive. I went back to Columbia for my Engineering degree. … I am now happily retired with my wife of 59 years and two sons living close enough for a three-hour car ride."

The Class of 1953 reunion is almost here — Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2. If you are planning to attend the dinner on Saturday, please send me a note so we can add your name to our list of attendees. We look forward to seeing you there.

1954

Bernd Brecher
35 Parkview Ave., Apt. 4G
Bronxville, NY 10708
brecherservices@aol.com

Hello once more '54 (a future column will be all in rhyme), for our Class Notes of Spring 2018. But first — let me explain again, given



Toni Coffee BC'56 (widow of Donn Coffee '55), David Filosa '82, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations/Ambassador Cho Tae-yul, Bernd Brecher '54 and Jocelyn Bohn '15 at the Columbia University Club Foundation's Ambassador Series in January.

some concerns shared with me, that *CCT* is a quarterly publication, which means that we have copy deadlines that are anywhere from a month to three months before the magazine gets into our hands. Ergo, an item about an event of September 2017 that I hear about in October 2017 and then edit and submit might not get into the hopper until November 2017, which means that the Winter 2017–18 issue (mailed in January 2018) might not include the news you thought you submitted "way back." Meanwhile, we asked you to send in items for the Spring 2018 issue (the one you are holding), which includes several items now appearing "late," which you expected would have been published in the previous *CCT*. (No need to thank me for that explanation.)

Bob Weber SEAS'55, SEAS'56 writes, "'*If winter comes, can spring be far behind?*' Shelley's poetic line keeps up the hope that soon the shivering will stop. I think of **Al Grayzel** SEAS'55 on the slopes in Utah and go back to the fireplace. I think of **Arnold Tolkin** and **Sheldon Cherry** PS'58 basking in the sun in Florida and go back to the fireplace. Sadly, Gloria, my wife of 54 incredible years, died in February 2017; my children and grandchildren here and in France try hard to fill the gap. I'm involved in numerous volunteer activities in Kingston, Mass., ranging from environmental, historical and library Board of Directors, to Meals on Wheels. Still trying to comprehend quantum theory. Cheers, all."

Thank you, Bob, for sharing both your pain and joy, and our condolences for your loss. You are perhaps at the head of the game, trying Doc Brecher's Rx for curing many ills — a daily pill that includes friends, family, community, and charity. Good luck and be well.

Allan Wikman writes, "I continue to be so impressed with the sheer volume of space you occupy tri-monthly!" (Which I will accept as a compliment.) He reminisces about our freshman year, when "I lived six feet across from **Howard Falberg** BUS'56, **Len Moche** and George Lowry '53 in a Livingston Hall side corridor suite and helped care for a master's candidate who was wheelchair-bound. Compensation was a delight: free room."

Allan stays in touch with classmates and has recently learned of the passing in December 2016 of **Ted Baledes.**

Bob Braverman, in some self-musings asks, "What did we learn from four years at Columbia?" and responds, "At the time I believed that I was regularly absorbing dozens of new and important ideas, connections to bright and amusing friends, witty and helpful faculty advisers and so on. Now, it is more than 60 years later and I have joined the ranks of exhausted and despondent old guys who are appalled at the ugliness of politics not only in the United States but around the world, with few if any prospects that we will come to our senses and pay attention to the mounting troubles of our lives. I would like to be able to provide a list of accomplishments attributable to my education but not much comes to mind. I hope my colleagues have a better set of promises than I do."

Now there's a challenge from Bob to the rest of us! Let me hear from you: Let the debate begin!

We continue to receive news of the passing of classmates, sadly at a greater pace than ever before:

Peter Skomorowsky, an old and valued friend, passed away in February. I met him in the old *Spec* City Room in 1954, when he volunteered for the photography staff. Photography was his passion and devotion, after Phyllis, and the candid photos of New Yorkers and their neighborhoods taken by him as a "walker in the city" — and select nature shots from their retreat in Ancram — were always a treat for the mind and the eye. Peter and Phyllis were married soon after college; he then went into the Army, then to work at accounting firm Grant Thornton, where he became managing partner. Meanwhile Peter earned an M.B.A., and later a degree from New York Law School. He became an associate at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan.

My wife, Helen, and I were blessed to have Peter and Phyllis as very close and supportive friends for nearly 60 years. In addition to his wife, Peter is survived by daughter Anne (husband Douglas), son Andrew (wife Jen) and granddaughters Charlotte and Rebecca.

Peter died in New York City on February 1, 2018, the same day as **Herb Frommer** DM'57, an accomplished practitioner for more than four decades and a teacher at the NYU College of Dentistry, where he received wide recognition, including NYU's Distinguished Teaching Award at Founders' Day in 1996. At the College, Herb rowed for the varsity crew. He leaves Eleanor, his wife of nearly 60 years, sons Ross and Daniel, daughters-in-law Connie and Jacqueline, and three grandchildren.

Another class loss is **Herb Hagerty,** Phi Gamma Delta president, student laundry manager, Navy lieutenant commander, U.S. Foreign Service officer, teacher of professional writing at the Foreign Service Institute, member of the CIA (and the list goes on) — a man who in college and career devoted his life to community and public service. After Columbia, Herb was awarded a master's in South Asia regional studies by Penn and in 1976 was named a "Distinguished Graduate" of the National War College.

His ventures in the second half of the 20th century are the makings of a Tom Clancy novel. **Edward Cowan,** Herb's close and good friend through the decades in Washington, D.C., shares this report: "While posted as the political officer at the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, Herb and some 90 Americans and Pakistanis almost lost their lives in a November 21, 1979, attack on the embassy by Pakistani demonstrators. At about 1 p.m., the rioters invaded the embassy compound and soon set the building on fire. Herb and others on staff retreated to a 'secure' vault on the top floor. …Tear gas and smoke seeped into the vault, choking the people inside … by 5:30 p.m., the vault was hot, the edge of a carpet began to burn, and the people in the vault … began to wonder if they would be cooked alive. … By early evening, the demonstrators had withdrawn. Herb and the others left the vault, walked across the hot roof and descended to the ground by ladders … *Time* magazine reported that the 'seven-hour rampage' took the lives of a Marine guard, an Army warrant officer, two Pakistani clerks and two demonstrators."

The New York Times obituary section devoted half a page last November to **Eric Salzman,** heralding him as "a composer and critic who helped found the American Music Theater Festival" and a "champion of avant-garde." He died in New York City on November 12, 2017. Eric, who pledged Beta Sigma Rho, graduated from Forest Hills H.S. along with **Peter Skomorowsky.** Eric was music critic for several publications, including the *Times*. But likewise, for five decades, he composed exploratory works that mixed music, text, dance and other elements. He was the author of several books, including *Twentieth-Century Music: An Introduction*, written in the 1970s and most recently updated in 2001.

Donald Crabill GSAS'55, who served seven Presidents at the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, died last September in Arlington, Va. Previously he had served our country for four years as a Naval officer in the Mediterranean fleet. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Mary, four children and their spouses, many grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

As for me, **Bernd Brecher** JRN'55, I continue to serve as VP on the board of the Columbia University Club Foundation, an independent 501(c)3 that was incorporated in 1949 following a decade of planning and strategizing by the old Columbia University Club to form a tax-exempt entity that could support scholarships and other educational programs at the University. Other trustees are Arthur Delmhorst '60, BUS'64; Toni Coffee BC'56 (widow of Donn Coffee '55); Paul Neshamkin '63; Paul de Bary '68, BUS'71, LAW'71; David Filosa '82; Thomas Auth '90; and Jocelyn Bohn '15.

On January 17, the foundation sponsored Ambassador Cho Tae-yul, the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations, in the latest of our Ambassador Series, in which we partner with the United Nations Association of New York in presenting this educational offering to members and friends of the Columbia University Club, UNANY and others including Columbia students. The series began 15 years ago and we have in that time hosted more than two score ambassadors from five continents, including representatives from Israel, Italy, Ireland, Kenya, France, Cuba, Germany, Vietnam, Turkey, Brazil, Egypt, India, Mexico, Indonesia, Botswana and Chile, as well as the American ambassador/permanent representative to the United Nations and our ambassadors Thomas Pickering and Christopher Hill, who served between them as our ambassadors to 10 different nations.

The event — a lecture, question and answer session, and reception — was held at the Korean mission a block from the U.N., and could not have been more fortuitously timed with the myriad political and Olympics issues that in January centered on Korea. I introduced Ambassador Cho and told the 120 attendees that he would be glad to respond to questions on any relevant subject of the day. And he did, with the understanding that this was an "off the record" session that no press would be attending.

CUCF has, over the years, donated more than $60,000 annually to the Columbia College Scholarship Fund to aid 10 first-year students, and substantial funds to such other Columbia services and programs as the Core Curriculum. The foundation is dedicated to scholarship support and to helping support various programs on campus that might require additional funding, or projects for which we might be the sole funder. We may be eclectic, but we are also choosy.

That's it, gentlemen, for our lead-in to 2018. I start working on our next quarterly Class Notes as we all receive this, the Spring 2018 issue. Remember, next year is our 65th reunion, which we all look forward to celebrating together. Send me your ideas. For now, and always, be well, recognize your accomplishments, share your joys, write, never forget, do good things, and stay in touch. Excelsior!

1955

Gerald Sherwin
181 E. 73rd St., Apt. 6A
New York, NY 10021
gs481@juno.com

It seems that Columbia is the "hot" school in terms of educational and even athletic activity. **Jack Stuppin** and two cohorts had a showing at the Art Museum of Sonoma County in Santa Rosa, Calif. We are looking forward to an event with **Barry Pariser** in Newburgh, N.Y. The Alexander Hamilton Award Dinner in early November was attended by **Alfred Gollomp, Don Laufer** and **Elliot Gross.** Other events attended by classmates were the Dean's Scholarship Reception in early February and the John Jay Awards Dinner in early March. **Roland Piottel,** our resident patent expert, is looking forward to class dinners in 2018.



Members of the Class of 1956 gathered for a luncheon in November at Faculty House on campus. Seated, left to right: Ed Gordon '56, Mark Novick '56, Ron Kapon '56 and Jesse Blumenthal '56. Standing, left to right: Bob Siroty '56; Alan Broadwin '56; Buzz Paaswell '56; Ralph Kaslick '56; Gordon Silverman '55, SEAS'56; and Al Franco SEAS'56.

We've heard from Long Islanders **Richard Reichler, Ted Ditchek, Stanley Friedman** and **Alan Hoffman.** And with the basketball season under way we expect to hear and see from **Bob Bernot** and **Dick Kuhn.** The football season ended on a high note and I'm sure two of our stalwarts, **Dick Carr** and **Bob Mercier,** would be proud. **Bill Epstein** remains in rehab with a household injury. His good friend **Bernie Kirtman** sends his kind wishes. **Bill Langston** and his family bought a townhouse in upper Harlem. The Langston family will move sometime in 2018. **Peter Pressman** lives on the Upper East Side and was espied in the neighborhood making his rounds.

We must report **Charlie Sergis'** former radio station WINS has been doing very well in ratings with so much news to broadcast. From Cleveland are reports on positive happenings for **Norman Robbins.** We've heard from **Gordon Silverman** in Manhattan and **Roger Stern** passing through from Washington, D.C., trying to get together and renew old ties. Others reporting in are **Anthony Viscusi, Ron Spitz** and **Al Martz.** Your trusted correspondent will try to forward information to **Ted Baker** and **Mike Goldstein** (Ford Scholars).

Wondrous classmates, the 65th is almost upon us. Be prepared for what is coming; a little exercise couldn't hurt you.

Love to all, everywhere … the good guys are winning.

1956

Robert Siroty
707 Thistle Hill Ln.
Somerset, NJ 08873
rrs76@columbia.edu

A good time was had at the November luncheon at Faculty House on campus. Attending were **Ed Gordon; Mark Novick; Ron Kapon; Jesse Blumenthal; Bob Siroty; Alan Broadwin; Buzz Paaswell; Ralph Kaslick;** Gordon Silverman '55, SEAS'56; and **Al Franco SEAS'56.**

I heard from Dr. **Lionel Deutsch** that he is retired, lives in Ohio and has graduated to the rank of "Grandpa." **Henry Sobell** reports that he and his wife, Lourdes, continue to live in "our Adirondacks home." **Jim Mooney** writes that he will be in Naples, Fla., all winter. **Jay Martin** sends his best wishes. **Gunther Schmitt**'s new email is e13856@verizon.net. **Philip Shapiro** writes from Southern California, asking about possible luncheons there. Reach out to the Alumni Office at ccalumni@columbia.edu; maybe they can help set them up. **Kenneth Silverman** died in July 2017; his son Ethan reports that Kenneth was always a proud Columbia alum.

Keep the notes coming. Be well.

1957

Herman Levy
7322 Rockford Dr.
Falls Church, VA 22043
hdlleditor@aol.com

Saul Cohen died at home on January 15, 2018. Rabbi **Alvin Kass** conducted his funeral service at The Riverside Memorial Chapel on West 76th Street and Amsterdam Avenue on January 18.

After attending the fall meetings of the American Bar Association Section of Public Contract Law Fall Meeting in Louisville, Ky., November 2–4, yours truly visited the Muhammad Ali Center, which honors native son Ali (né Cassius Clay). The center's website describes the center as follows: "The Muhammad Ali Center is a cultural attraction and international education center that is inspired by the ideals of its visionary founder Muhammad Ali. Featuring two-and-a-half levels of award-winning interactive exhibits and captivating multimedia presentations, the Ali Center carries on Muhammad's legacy and inspires the exploration of the greatness within ourselves, includes an amazing five-screen orientation theater film, historical Civil Rights-era media footage, displays of Ali's charitable work, an interactive timeline of Ali's life, video of Ali's fights, hands-on boxing fun, art galleries, children's Hope and Dream wall, temporary exhibits, Ali Center retail store and more."

One of the highlights of the collection, albeit obscure, is a video of Ali's daughter giving a boxing lesson.

Classmates, please send along news of your activities for *CCT.* Please think for a moment or two; there is surely something worthy of sharing with us.

1958

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.com

[Editor's note: *CCT* is sad to report that longtime CC'58 class correspondent **Barry Dickman** passed away on January 29, 2018. He submitted this column shortly before his passing.]

Sadly, three of our classmates died during 2017. **Esmail Koushanpour** died on February 12, 2017. He was survived by his wife, Jenny; daughter, Kathryn Limon; and sons, David, Philip and Stephen. A resident of Mundelein, Ill., at his death he was associate professor emeritus of physiology at Northwestern. Esmail was born in Iran and at 16 emigrated alone to England, where he studied at Oxford. Two years later he became a member of the Class of'58. At Michigan State, where he earned a Ph.D., he designed a blood-pressure cuff for NASA that attached to the tails of space-traveling primates; according to his wife, that concept was later used for the pulse oximeter, "the device that's clamped onto your finger to measure blood pressure," she says, adding "I think he sold that invention for $500."

Esmail spent 36 years on the faculty of the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern as a researcher and physician. He was also president of the Medical School Faculty Senate. He was a Fulbright Scholar, spending the term of his grant at the University of Heidelberg. Esmail was the co-author of a text on kidney science called *Renal Physiology: Principles, Structure and Function* and the author of dozens of papers on renal disease and high blood pressure. A devout Muslim, he also was adviser to the Graduate Theological Foundation on Islamic Affairs; a distinguished service professor of American Muslim relations; and an executive director of the Islamic Cultural Center of Greater Chicago, which awarded him a Doctorate of Humane Letters.

Esmail was also a leader in the interfaith movement that began in the Chicago suburbs in the 1990s, helping the Islamic community join ongoing statewide efforts of faith groups and labor unions to assist the working poor. This drive led to the formation of the Illinois FamilyCare program, which brought health care to 180,000 people. Additionally, he helped create interfaith programs for his mosque and several churches and synagogues. He once said, "People of the Jewish faith and people of the Muslim faith are cousins. We really need to believe in that, and we need to explain that to people." In his spare time, Esmail served on a number of boards of Chicago-area organizations. [Editor's note: See Obituaries, Winter 2017–18.]

Don DeDitius died on August 15, 2017. He had four children: John, Maureen Tickner, Susan Broderick and Jennifer Dunson. His wife, Joan, predeceased him. Don transferred to CC'58 from the University of Illinois. At the College he was a brother of Sigma Nu and a member of both the band and the orchestra. After graduation Don became an account executive for the large New York City agency Doyle Dane Bernbach during the "Mad Men" era, eventually becoming a VP of TracyLocke in Dallas. In 1980, he started his own agency, Pierce, DeDitius & Galyean, which become one of the top United States medical agencies. When PD&G was acquired by a larger agency in 1998, Don retired. He had continued playing trombone with various jazz quartets and symphony orchestras since college, but in 2003 his retirement took a new turn: He fulfilled a lifelong dream and enrolled at Texas Wesleyan University School of Law, becoming a lawyer at 71.

Ira Carlin writes: "**Jack McGroarty** passed away on December 22, 2017. Here is a copy of the *Los Angeles Times* obituary. I knew Jack both from NROTC and the track team. I also saw him from time to time when we lived in L.A. He even came to our house in northern San Diego County with some other classmates several years ago, and we saw him thereafter in Laguna Beach. He was a good guy. I am told that his last years were very difficult because of his severe health problems.

"I hope that all is well with you and to see you in late May, along with all the other old people, at our 60th reunion. In the meantime, avoid natural causes."

Jack's obit reads as follows: "Dr. John Joseph McGroarty has died at 81. With affable stubbornness and a certain dramatic flair, Dr. McGroarty had for the past several years put up a noble fight against Parkinson's disease with Lewy body dementia. A board-certified ophthalmologist, Dr. McGroarty was on staff at Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center in Burbank. His practice on Riverside Drive was where he was happiest."

Jack was survived by his children, Sean, James, Daniel, Michael and Meghan.

The annual New York metro area Homecoming party, which returned to the Manhattan apartment of Ruthie and **Ernie Brod**, was especially joyous, as it took place after the Lions' thrilling overtime victory over Penn. Even better, the win was followed by an 8–2 season for Big Blue and a second-place Ivy League finish. Those celebrating were Nancy and Michael Berlin '59; Carol and **Barry Dickman**; Eileen and **Joe Dorinson**; Audrey and **Harvey Feuerstein**; **Bernie Nussbaum** and his wife, Nancy Kuhn; Anita and **Howard Orlin**; Judy and **Shelly Raab**; **Arthur Radin** and his wife, Miriam Katowitz BUS'74; Linda and **Sid Rosdeitcher**; Ruth and **Bob Waldbaum**; and Joan and **Mark Weiss**. The evening also included a tribute to Steve Fybish '57, our colorful *Spectator* colleague, whose death was noted in this column in the Winter 2017–18 issue.

The Class Lunch is held on the second Tuesday of every month in the Grill of the Princeton Club, 15 W. 43rd St. ($31 per person). Email **Art Radin** if you plan to attend, even up to the day before: arthur.radin@janoverllc.com.

1959

Norman Gelfand
c/o *CCT*
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
nmgc59@gmail.com

William Bailey sent us the sad news of the 2015 death of **Hugh McSurely** SEAS'60 and of the 2017 death of **Richard Merrill** SIPA'63, LAW'64. I found information on their lives after Columbia in their obituaries.

Hugh McSurely was born on October 21, 1937, and passed away on October 20, 2015. Hugh was a resident of Canton, Mich., at the time of passing. In addition to earning a B.A. and a B.S. from Columbia, he earned a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. He was a member of NROTC while a student at Columbia and proudly served as an officer in the Navy between the Korean and Vietnam conflicts. Hugh was married to Kathy.

Richard Merrill was born on May 20, 1937, and passed away on October 26, 2017. Richard was a resident of Charlottesville, Va., at the time of his passing. He graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Columbia and attended Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. He had been dean of UVA Law School.

As you might have noticed, Columbia's football team had a very successful season. **Mike Tannenbaum** enjoyed the season and sent us the following: "This year I went to three football games at Baker Field, now Robert K. Kraft Field at Lawrence A. Wien Stadium, and Columbia won all three. I sat next to **Ted Graske** and his wife in the enclosed seats under the pressbox (he gave me the tickets) at two of the three games and Charlie Feuer '58 at the last game.

"The first was the Georgetown game on September 23, which was preceded by a pregame reception in Coach Lou Little's honor, to which

Stay in Touch
Let us know if you have a new postal or email address, a new phone number or even a new name:
college.columbia.edu/alumni/connect.



Norman Gelfand '59 (left) and Luigi Lucaccini '59 met for lunch in Oakland, Calif.

I was invited, having been on the football team as a manager when Little was coaching. I told one of my favorite stories: I was in the locker room at Baker Field getting dressed, having come on the late bus, when the equipment manager, Dominic, came to me and told me to run onto the field and tell Mr. Little that Mr. Rockefeller was on the telephone. I ran and I arrived at the northernmost practice field out of breath and I could barely say, 'Mr. Little, Mr. Rockefeller is on the telephone.' He looked down at me and in his famous gravelly voice said, 'Which Mr. Rockefeller?' I ran back to the locker room. Fortunately, Dominic took a message.

"The second game was Homecoming; I attended the picnic with my daughter Nina Tannenbaum '99 and her 1-year-old daughter, Tiye Tannenbaum Castelli. I stayed for the Columbia-Penn game, which was fantastic — a real nail-biter.

"The third game was Senior Day, the last football home game for seniors. It was against Brown on November 18; Coach Al Bagnoli and the Football Players Club organized a pregame ceremony and invited football alumni (100-plus showed up). Right before the game the football alumni lined up on the two hash marks from the 50-yard line to the north goal line and one by one the senior football players and their close friends and relatives marched from the goal line to the 50-yard line to be greeted, hugged and praised to the public by Bagnoli.

"It was a great pleasure to see how a superior coach can turn out a happy, devoted and winning team."

Ralph Risley reports, "The past year has been interesting in many aspects. Most things we can do nothing about except remain true to the values and aspirations we learned while at Columbia. Additionally, we can leverage those skills during our remaining time.

"Last year my wife, Sara, and I moved into our third Tucson house since moving here in 2004 from California. For us it is all about the challenges of change and renewal, which is what redoing a house is all about. We are still traveling four months a year in our Airstream trailer, logging about 14,000 miles. I joined the board of an independent theater company, helping with business and financial issues. Sara is a docent and adviser to the local miniature museum."

From **Allen Rosenshine** we learn, "My family spent the Christmas/New Year's week on a chartered boat in the British Virgin Islands, having contracted for it before the hurricanes. Because the boat I chartered was not damaged, having been away from the islands during the storms, I had no recourse to cancel, only to meet the boat elsewhere. When I asked my children what they wanted to do, I was very proud that they opted that we should to go to the BVI as planned and do some volunteer work as part of our cruising. We did as much beach clean-up as we could on our own, since participating in any organized work was not practical, nor was there much evidence of such work in progress. The damage is devastating. Most beach resorts were literally destroyed. Most larger hotels were closed. Most marinas had boats sunk in their slips, boats wrecked on shore and piers destroyed. Most of the homes (large and small alike) that we could see from the water were empty. I spent one morning in Spanish Town on Virgin Gorda and there was practically no evidence of people living there or any repair work being done. For an economy that depends on tourism, it's hard to see how the area can recover in the foreseeable future. But happily, no one need be discouraged. The President of the United States has told the world that climate change is a hoax, so we can be sure what we saw was not a precursor of things to come."

Stephen Buchman writes: "I thought the class might be interested in the state of the Class of 1959 Scholarship Fund, which was started as a memorial to mark the passing of **Eric Holztman** GSAS'64 (1939–94). **Bob Stone** and I get a report on this every year. As of June 30, the fund had $153,673. It earned about $17,900, of which $8,516 was distributed to undergraduate recipients in the form of scholarship aid. Apparently, there were no additional contributions to the fund in 2017. Classmates are encouraged to make a contribution if they are seeking a direct way to help undergraduates. Each year, we receive a short bio of the student who is the recipient. There was another such recipient named in February."

Steve Trachtenberg informs us, "In March the Johns Hopkins University Press will release my book on the university presidency."

Norman Gelfand and his wife, Yona, joined their son Joseph Gelfand '01; his wife, Ingyin Zaw; and their daughter, Nila; for a wonderful week in Ireland touring castles and gardens. Shortly thereafter Norman and Yona traveled to Oakland, Calif., to visit their son who works for the Golden State Warriors. There they had a very pleasant lunch with **Luigi Lucaccini.**

Gil Wright and his wife, Diane, are fully ensconced in their home in North Potomac, Md. They miss the warmth of their winter home in Fort Myers, Fla., but are happy to be in Maryland. They both have medical issues and are investigating the possibility of eventually moving to a continuing care retirement community in the area. In the meantime, they are "downsizing." Gil has reduced the size of his nutcracker collection and they are donating cartons of books to local libraries. They are engaged in activities with family, friends and their church and are taking advantage of the resources of our nation's capital.

I have also received submissions from **Steve Kallis Jr.** and **Ralph W. Wyndrum Jr.** SEAS'59. Unfortunately, the space that *CCT* allows for the Class Notes prevents me from including them in this issue. I will include them in the next issue.

Harris Brodsky has been appointed executive in residence at The Hofstra Business School.

Congratulations!

A final word: Next year marks the 60th anniversary of our graduation. Our previous reunions have been marked by class-led panels, discussions and presentations by class members. These have been informative and civil. I hope that we can follow the same format for our reunion next year and not have our class combined with other classes.

1960

Robert A. Machleder
69-37 Fleet St.
Forest Hills, NY 11375
rmachleder@aol.com

"Oh, Say Can You 'C'?" was an item in the Fall 2017 issue's "Roar, Lion, Roar" section and recounted the history of the magnificent "C" at Spuyten Duyvil that serves as an exclamation point to our fight song, *Who Owns New York?* But the article failed to mention some of those who played a most important role in that saga; omissions that drew notes from **Mike Gelfand** and **Paul Knatz.**

Mike, coxswain of the freshman lightweight crew, sent this note: "During 1956–57 I was a 16-year-old, 115-lb. freshman coxswain. As a part of my crew 'initiation,' sitting on a narrow board, I was lowered to and painted (simply using a bucket and brush), a long segment of the 'C' equal to my arm span. One row was quite enough! My children, grandchildren and friends have been suitably impressed on seeing the site. Ah, memories … ."

And from Paul, coxswain of the freshman heavyweight crew: "The article on painting the 'C' on the Harlem River was welcome, but I have a couple of details to add:

"1. I painted a good part of the light blue in the upper right in 1956–57. Coach Al Lawn and some oarsmen put a safety bowline around my middle, lowered me from the top of the New York Central Rock with a bosun's chair, and sent down beer and sandwiches occasionally; everything by lanyards. I was the only one painting that day. The 'C' was only partly filled in at that time. My part took it a long way toward looking like something.

"2. Back at the Lions Den I announced my outing to friends **Myron Schwartzman, Pete Heim** and others. A year or two later, Pete was riding the Circle Line. The guide identified the 'C'. Pete raced to the bridge, 'Why, don't you realize that 'C' was painted by the great contemporary American artist, Paul Knatz?' Excitedly the guide passed on the announcement. Years later people were still telling me they



Paul Nagano '60 (left) and John Learned '61 met up at a Honolulu musical soirée on January 18.

heard my name as part of the tour! Finally somebody must have said, 'Who?' and Circle Line dropped the misleading qualifiers 'great' and 'artist.' 'Contemporary American,' I was. Now I also see that Harlem has been relandscaped; Baker Field redone. Unrecognizable."

There's a lesson in this story that long might have escaped mention, but the new facts just added to the record warrant attention. We would be sorely remiss if we neglected to explain why the record now requires an "Ode to the Coxswain." It seems that only coxswains had the right stuff to complete that "C" on the Spuyten Duyvil bluff. Those of us skilled in pulling a sweep-oar apparently lacked the talent to handle that fine chore. Sinew and ligament, quadriceps and brawn did not much impress our Al Lawn, who — when called upon to deliver a freshman Michelangelo — wisely dismissed those of us who were fit only to row. For he knew that taut backs and biceps rendered us too stiff to descend and adorn that imposing high cliff. And hands coarse and callused deprived us of the touch to wield with alacrity the artist's brush. So he selected two men who could steer a straight course through wake, waves and headwinds into which lesser lads wildly would toss. Now when you admire the "C"'s majesty and precision, reflect on Lawn's perceptive decision: Picture **Paul Knatz** dangling on a rope in mid-air, a rope as dreadful as Medusa's hair; **Mike Gelfand** swaying ever so precariously and hanging on to dear life in a bosun's chair; and Spuyten Duyvil's swirling currents spitting up the devil's own brew as those two courageously dipped brush after brush into buckets of paint, white and blue. That brilliant bold emblem of alma mater, to her everlasting embarrassment might have remained incomplete and of faded hue, had not it been for the heroic endeavor of that intrepid two. Praise them both, Paul and Mike, for their exquisite aesthetic sensibility and their meticulous unerring hand; for conquering all trepidation and fear, fortified by nothing more than sandwiches and beer; for carrying on with stiff upper lip and good grace, while braving the elements on their adventure in space; for completing the "C" and leaving it ever that much brighter; and now, I can but contemplate in horror, my fellow oarsmen and I might have been in their place if we had been just 30 lbs. lighter.

Mike advises that in retirement, when not playing tennis and golf, he consults at the Office of Professional Medical Conduct, which serves to protect the public through the investigation of professional discipline issues involving physicians and physician assistants. He also — with his wife, Diana — visits their five grandsons in Atlanta and Denver. I think it would be fair to say that he has no intention to volunteer to refresh the paint job on the "C" at any time in the near future. Finally, expressing a sentiment that I share entirely, Mike writes, "Participating in crew was a, if not *the*, highlight of my college experience."

Congratulations to **Larry Mendelson** BUS'61, who received two formidable distinctions. For the second consecutive year Larry, chairman and CEO of HEICO Corp., was named the best mid-cap aerospace and defense CEO by *Institutional Investor* in its annual All American Executive Team 2018. And, on July 14, French President Emmanuel Macron named Larry a Chevalier in the French Legion of Honour "in recognition of [Larry's] outstanding contribution to French-American friendship and cooperation." Upon receiving the news Larry commented, "I was surprised and deeply humbled by this great honor bestowed on me by the president of the République Française. Having maintained extensive personal and business connections with France for more than five decades, I have deep faith in the strong and shared values of America and France. On this July 14th Bastille Day holiday, I thank President Macron, Consul General [Clément] Leclerc and my many dear friends in France for this kind recognition of my confidence in Franco-American relations."

The Legion of Honor is the highest French decoration, and is world-famous. It has for two centuries been presented on behalf of the head of state to recognize those most distinguished in all fields of activity.

Larry adds his name to other members of the Class of '60 who received distinctive recognition abroad. **David Farmer** was named a Chevalier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres for his contribution to the arts; the award was bestowed by the French Ministry of Culture.

Norway's minister of foreign affairs, **Johan Jørgen Holst**, now deceased, brokered the negotiations between the Israeli government and the P.L.O. in 1993 that led to the Oslo Accords. His engagement was so determined and intense that he suffered a stroke, which ultimately claimed his life in January 1994. Although peace was, and has remained, elusive, he was revered and praised by both sides. Shimon Peres said, "The moment he entered the peace process, it was in the center of his life until his last breath. The entire nation of Israel bows its head to the memory of this man." Yasser Arafat called Jørgen "a great peacemaker who engraved the name of Norway in the book of world peace." Jørgen was posthumously honored in 1994 with a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement. It was the first time the award had been presented posthumously.

We, as a class can find it gratifying that members such as Larry, David and Jørgen have had such a positive impact beyond our borders.

Tom Hamilton, a prolific author, has completed his 12th book, *Weird Thoughts*, which he describes as a fiction/fantasy/satire anthology.

Vince Russo submits this remembrance of **Carlos Otálvaro**, whose passing was reported in the Winter 2017–18 Class Notes and Obituaries: "Even though I was a commuter, we were required to live on campus during freshman Orientation week. I was one of the luckiest because Carlos and **David Kirk** were my roommates. Carlos was one of the liveliest guys on earth and the world is a little poorer now that Parkinson's ended his life."

A happy and healthy spring to all.

1961

Michael Hausig
19418 Encino Summit
San Antonio, TX 78259
mhausig@yahoo.com

Barry McCallion and his wife, Joanne, took their grandnephew (an avid fisherman) with them to Costa Rica for their annual fishing trip. Last spring they visited London, then Devon and Cornwall. Joanne has joined the small house craze, so they found the smallest accommodations possible.

Barry continues to make artists' books. Anyone interested can find examples on his dealers' websites — either Priscilla Juvelis Rare Books or Alicia Bailey's Abecedarian Gallery. The books are part of a work in progress called "The Oarsman." For 45 years Barry has developed the character and his narrative in paintings, books and objects. When they were in London, Barry was invited to talk about "The Oarsman" with students at the Courtauld Gallery.

Albert Kirsch '61's KCC Productions put on the second annual South Beach Jazz Festival in Miami in January; it ran for three days.

Jack Kirik visited **Gerry Brodeur** for the New Year's weekend. The nearby photo was taken from Gerry's patio at the Painted Desert Golf Club in Las Vegas.

Burt Cross retired as director of records at Rhode Island College many years ago. He lives in Saint Augustine, Fla., with six children and 14 grandchildren all over the country. Burt wishes he could pole vault, but those skills have passed him by through the years.

Bob Salman LAW'64, after working on the winning New Jersey gubernatorial campaign of Phil Murphy, was appointed to the

Transition Advisory Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. In June, Bob and his wife, Reva, will celebrate their 55th anniversary. In May, their granddaughter Sydney Spiewak will graduate from the David B. Falk College of Sport and Human Dynamics at Syracuse.

Stuart Newman LAW'64 was instrumental in setting up the Small Business Support Fund, created by the Business Law Section of the New York State Bar Association, which will provide grants to nonprofits giving legal advice to military veterans, minorities and others seeking to establish small businesses in New York State. The fund is off to a good start, with grants approved for 2018 to two organizations providing legal assistance in New York City.

Albert Kirsch's KCC Productions put on the second annual South Beach Jazz Festival in Miami in January, anchored by Branford Marsalis and Ignacio Berroa. The festival ran for three days. All ticketed events were sold out and hundreds attended the series of free concerts on Lincoln Road. The festival is a world-class event showcasing the artistry of people with disabilities and organized by Power Access Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit. The organization looks forward to continuing to promote the festival's primary goal: to define others by ability rather than disability.

Arnold Klipstein is a gastroenterologist, currently in Bangor, Maine. He writes that the area is pretty, but cold in the winter. In early January the temperature was a chilly -13°F. Arnold works two weeks a month and went to Florida for a week in March to warm up.



Jack Kirik '61 (right) visited Gerry Brodeur '61 for the New Year's weekend; this photo was taken from Brodeur's patio on the Painted Desert Golf Course in Las Vegas.

Famous artist Paul Nagano '60 and noted particle physicist **John Learned** shared Columbia stories at a Honolulu musical soiree on January 18. They recognized alma mater over food and drink prior to a marvelous chamber concert. Paul was editor of *Jester* and John was into lightweight crew and singing at St. Paul's Chapel. Amazingly it turns out that Paul's friend, chef Michael Bosley (who participated in the conversation), was born in the same small hospital in Plattsburgh, N.Y., as John. Small world! Says John, "We are a long way from Manhattan, but our days and classical education at CC continue to have a huge influence on our lives."

In October, I had the pleasure of attending the San Antonio Manufacturer's Association dinner, where **Mickey Greenblatt**'s son Drew was guest speaker. Drew spoke about resurgence of manufacturing in the the United States and the potential impact of the tax law changes that were anticipated at that time.

1962

John Freidin
654 E. Munger St.
Middlebury, VT 05753
jf@bicyclevt.com

In November **Barry Spinello** wrote to express his appreciation of **Roman Kernitsky**'s remarks (in the Fall 2017 issue) about Hillary Clinton, President Barack Obama '83 and international refugees: "Thank you for printing Roman Kernitsky's extraordinary letter. I was astounded and completely agree. My wife, Irene (an M.D. and intensivist, and also a refugee from the former Soviet Union), often reminds me of the difference between a wall, keeping people out, and a wall, keeping people in. It's called freedom. Her father spent two years in the gulag for the capitalist crime of appraising jewelry. On a different topic: We need a great university to sponsor a debate on the vital issue of climate change. Each side might choose a Nobel Laureate, a professor emeritus and an economist. Is Columbia brave enough?"

Also in November, **Michael Stone** BUS'63 wrote the following letter to *The New York Times*. Mike said: "The *Times* edited in down, taking some of the fizz out. Here's my original:

"Let me say upfront that sexual abuse and harassment of any kind is vile and should not be tolerated in our society, nor should abuses due to racial, gender, sexuality, or religious preferences.

"Having said that, there is a need to discuss punishments versus violations. If you make a scale, Harvey Weinstein will be on one end and Jeffrey Tambor on the other. Everyone else's deeds will lie at various points in between. However, the punishments being dealt, especially because of knee-jerk reactions by organizations like HBO and Netflix, are the same: career-ending terminations.

"Our society is not supposed to mete out punishment before trial and conviction. But that is not happening and many other people are also being unfairly punished. Innocent people (especially the lower-level employees) are being thrown out of work when the shows are immediately cancelled.

"Let's look at one example: journalist Mark Halperin. When he was exposed for sexual misconduct (on the milder end of the scale) 10 years earlier, the reaction was swift and final. NBC fired him, the publisher of his successful books on the presidential campaigns immediately cancelled the upcoming book, and HBO (once again backing into the darkness) cancelled a series to be based on the book. So his career was ended in 24 hours.

"But what about his partner, John Heilemann, who did absolutely nothing wrong? He suffered the same punishment. Why? Collateral damage is a simplistic and unacceptable answer. We need to bring some common sense into this."

David Adams, who came to Columbia from Neosho, Mo., retired from UNESCO, where since 1998 he had directed the International Year for the Culture of Peace. He has written an early history of the Culture of Peace and continues to edit the *Culture of Peace News Network*.

Since 1995 **Mark Feldman** LAW'65 has lived near Charleston, S.C. After 40 years managing government relations for TIAA-CREF, VALIC and other life insurers, he's mostly retired. He writes: "I spent most of my time enabling and protecting non-governmental retirement systems for institutions of public higher education. I still do some consulting on public pensions.

"My best friend and wife, Sandy, and I have been married for 25 years. She is a virtuoso travel adviser with clients nationwide. We travel often for business and pleasure. Between us we have three sons and five grandchildren. If you live near New York City, you might have heard my son, Jim, giving traffic and weather information on WCBS radio. I'm reasonably healthy and active and very much enjoy life. I am treasurer of the S.C. District for the National Exchange Club, a community service organization, and a member of the Board of Governors of the Harbour Club, a downtown social/business club."

From NYC, **Alex Firestone** reports that he is "enjoying retirement and life in general in this ever-changing but still-the-same city."

The birth of his 10th granddaughter greeted **Jeff Milstein** on January 8! His only grandson was born in May 2017. "That's a 10 to 1 ratio," he says, and wonders: "How does it compare to the ratios of classmates?"

John Joyce writes: "I followed with great pride the success of last season's football team. Fifty-six years ago, **Ron Meyer, Larry Gaston, Bill Davidson,** some future wives and I attended all the home and away games that championship season, and occasionally yelled our famous (to ourselves) 'Moon job' cheer.

"This past holiday rekindled another memory. For Christmas I gave my son-in-law, a lifelong Mets fan, the *Times* collection of significant articles about the Mets. The first article, May 9, 1961, announced the creation of the team. At the top of the page was a report about Columbia's big baseball win over Army and the stellar performances of **Tom Vasell, Bob Koehler** and Mike Esposito '61! At 77, I'm happy to still have some memory after 44 years of law practice, 54 years of marriage and 13 years of retirement."

Jane and **Leo Swergold** have lent their outstanding Buddhist Gilt Bronze Collection to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston for an exhibit that runs through June. The winter issue of *Arts of Asia* magazine ran a large spread on the exhibition. Leo offers to arrange tours of the exhibit for interested classmates.

Gerry Sorin GSAS'69 is working on his ninth book, tentatively

titled *Saul Bellow: I'm Jewish and I've Written Some Books.* Send information or anecdotes about Bellow to soring@newpaltz.edu.

Anthony Valerio claims his mother never told him that if you live long enough, your editor, collaborators and close friends retire or pass on. "I certainly feel such a void," he writes, "and am thankful for every new day. Last week, our local newspaper, *The Middletown Press*, ran a front-page story that accurately quoted me: 'That took the air out of my room' in response to Trump's travel ban on citizens of six Muslim-majority nations. 'Here I am, the child of immigrants. If it had not been for immigrants, I would not have had life. I would not have created. I would not have loved … I would not have shared with my fellows the astounding natural and created images of this world.' I was pleased it made the front page. Perhaps it will nudge/jostle the paper a little to the left.

"Last year, perhaps in anticipation of two hip replacements, I put together two volumes of *Immigrants According to Anthony Valerio*, which includes more than 30 pieces about individuals, including rescued dogs and cats, who touched me (anthonyvalerio.com)."

Phil Lille recalls some marvelous stories from our days on Morningside Heights: "On becoming an octogenarian, I reflected on a few of the classmates I've kept in touch with. **Lucky Bowers** LAW'65 who lived in that tiny 'cell' under the stairs at the Beta House, turned down some big offers in NYC after graduating from the Law School. Instead he returned to Beaver County and built one of the most successful law firms in western Pennsylvania. I met Lucky in Blue Key along with **Pete Russell,** whom I'm sure we all remember. He became a Navy pilot and was killed in Vietnam while providing close air support to a riverine, military patrol. Lucky and **Gerry Debonis** established the "[Lt.] Peter F. Russell Scholarship" at the College.

"Senior year **John Eder** and I shared a forgettable apartment near campus. That summer we lived in the Beta House. In August a young lady gave me a ride there to drop off some clothes, and I found a note from John advising me that we were no longer roommates since he had joined the Army OCS. John has retired from the corporate brokerage world and lives happily in Florida. He still trades stocks and reminds me of his successful picks that I rejected.

"Frank Lorenzo '61, my big brother at Sigma Chi, was a true friend, and got me through some difficult times. I always looked forward to our jobs at Macy's during Christmas break. His successes have been well documented. As far as I know, he's still running marathons.

"**Ken Jowitt** was a scrawny, 17-year-old scholarship prodigy. He sat in the first row in CC class next to me, a 21-year-old Marine veteran who hadn't read a book in three years. Ken would argue with the instructor, an avowed socialist and Ph.D. candidate, while the three of us bummed Pall Malls from each other. Ken went on to beat me as consul of Sigma Chi, which should have been his everlasting claim to fame. Instead he became one of the greatest, most respected professors of political science in the history of UC Berkeley and the youngest to achieve tenure. His lectures drew up to 500 students and always received standing ovations. After retiring from Berkeley, Ken joined the Hoover Institute, where he continued to write and lecture, as he now does from residences in California and Ireland.

"And me? That girl who gave me a ride into the city on August 6, 1962 — we eloped that day and were married the next in Arlington, Va. It'll be 56 years this August. After 12 years in Japan, the first two doing research on an unfinished dissertation for that elusive Ph.D., and the rest working for U.S.-Japanese joint venture companies, we moved to Arizona. I taught for a while and then started a chemical company that still keeps me busy, along with my lifelong study of Japanese. Two kids and six grandkids. Had to give up riding and raising horses, tennis, pick-up basketball, triathlons and so on. Now split my time between Scottsdale and the beautiful Kahala section of Honolulu. Living the dream! God bless and Semper Fi."

From Jerusalem, **Joe Romanelli** writes: "As my best friend, **Harvey Chertoff,** said, 'We are not in our golden years, but in our years of rust.' It is depressing how many friends have passed away or suffer from debilitating problems. An Israeli friend told me he plans to move to North Carolina, because he doesn't know anyone there.

"Every generation seems to view its early years as 'the good old days' and the present as a time of deterioration. The divides in the United States in terms of race, class, gender and so forth distress me. In Israel we face similar problems, though of a lesser magnitude, perhaps because security issues force a modicum of togetherness.

"But let me look back with a nostalgic eye. How lucky was our generation! I grew up in a lower middle-class section of Brooklyn. We didn't have much, but I can't remember wanting for anything. We didn't need parents to take us anywhere; the subway and buses did the job. Public schools from elementary through high school were excellent. In elementary school we walked home for lunch. Our high school was so crowded that as freshmen we began classes at 11 and often finished after dark. It was the best of times.

"At Columbia, I recall no political movements. The big questions may have been fraternity or not, or which major to choose. ROTC was an honored activity. We graduated before SDS. I remember neither pampering by the administration nor special demands by students. Once we completed our studies, life became more complicated and more fascinating. Judging by talks with friends and reading (especially Class Notes) it seems most of us have fared well. We have so much for which to be grateful!"



The Class of '63's January lunch had a great turnout! Left to right: Bruce Kaplan '63, Harvey Schneier '63, Steve Barcan '63, Paul Neshamkin '63, Henry Black '63, Ed Coller '63 (hidden), Bob Heller '63, Jerry Dwyer '63, Don Margolis '63, Doron Gopstein '63, Lee Lowenfish '63, Alan Wilensky '63 and Daniel Perl '63.

Cellist Joel Krosnick '63 is retired from the Juilliard String Quartet but teaches cellists and chamber groups at Juilliard and chairs its cello department.

1963

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Paul Neshamkin
1015 Washington St., Apt. 50
Hoboken, NJ 07030
pauln@helpauthors.com

Reunion is only two months away! By now you should have received mailings from the College with

details and, I hope, are making plans to attend. We want to make sure this one is as much fun as our 50th, and will give you all plenty of time to greet classmates and enjoy an exciting visit to New York City and good old Columbia. I look forward to seeing you all in May.

I recently attended the Robert Burns Dinner celebration at the Columbia-Penn Club. **Jerry Dwyer** joined me and my daughter as we sampled the whisky and watched **Bill Burley** pipe in the haggis. Bill had traveled in with his wife, Suzanne, to do the honors for the 17th straight year, and the evening was a fitting tribute to fine food and the Scottish bard. It occurred to me that with Bill and our other piper classmate, **Bob Shlaer,** we probably have the strongest piping class in Columbia's history. Another reason to be proud of the Class of '63.

David Pittinsky writes, "In August, I celebrated my 75th birthday in St. Tropez, France, where I have vacationed for the last 15 years at the wonderful La Residence de la Pinède boutique hotel. My wife, Alecia, family and friends — a party of 14 — joined me and celebrated this wonderful occasion. Although we spent a week celebrating at the St. Tropez famous — or, as some people who dine there might say, infamous — lunch clubs on Pampelonne Beach, the highlight of the week was the dinner at the three-star Michelin restaurant at the Pinède.

"In mid-September, I was inducted into the American College of Trial Lawyers at its annual meeting in Montreal. In late September, my wife and I returned to Paris for the 11th time in the last 12 years and immensely enjoyed the David Hockney exhibition at the Centre Georges Pompidou and the Irving Penn exhibition at the Grand Palais. As usual, we enjoyed every minute of our one-week stay and had superb meals at our favorite restaurants: La Fontaine de Mars, Allard, Café Constant, L'Avenue and Les Climats, none of which (with the exception of Les Climats) were expensive. Our Parisian stay was also enhanced by our visits to the Rue Cler marketplace and our walks all over the Parisian streets and the Seine."

Richard Goldwater writes, "I'd like to write a paragraph or three summing up my life; it feels like time to say goodbye."

Gosh, Richard, not yet! Say it isn't so!

Doug Anderson writes, "One night in fall 1959, a group of upperclassmen took a group of us to P.J. Clarke's to help convince us that we should join ZBT. I had a rare cheeseburger and a cup of chili. One of the guys told me that the sliced raw onion was under the bun. Talk about being 'snowed:' The room was filled with models and I had just learned the secret of P.J. Clarke's. From 1959 to 2015 I had been going to P.J. Clarke's and having a rare cheeseburger and a cup of chili (thanks Jerry [Speyer '62] for preserving P.J.'s when you built your building). That said, the new owners decided to take chili off the menu, and it made me cranky. I wrote a review on TripAdvisor, Yelp and Google discussing how people buying an institution shouldn't change core products. I sent an email to the office of the new owners — nothing. Dale and I had taken our kids to P.J. Clarke's. We'd taken our grandkids to P.J. Clarke's. Everyone always ate the same thing — a tradition. I kept going. I kept kvetching. I kept writing reviews. Eventually, P.J. Clarke's hired a person to read and respond to comments on sites like TripAdvisor and Google. I saw her name and called her. She put me through to the CEO, a man named Phil Scotti. We connected. We spoke about the New York restaurant scene for a half hour. We laughed about the care he had taken restoring the bathroom and how he hadn't been as mindful about the menu. Last week my new friend Phil called to tell me he was putting chili back on the menu, and that he was naming it after me because I'd earned the credit."



Jerry Dwyer '63, Bill Burley '63 and Suzanne Burley at the Burns Dinner in New York City in January.

Charles Bremer sent a short note: "Nothing exciting to report. My life is dull, the way I like it. Last week I took our friend Donald, from Arlington, Va. (our former residence), to the Columbia campus. We visited Pupin Hall. I assume your readers know what was invented in the basement thereof."

Cellist **Joel Krosnick** writes, "[I am a] member of the Class of 1963, who received his Columbia degree in 1970. I accepted a professorship in music at the University of Iowa 1963–66, and at the University of Massachusetts 1966–70. During the summers between 1963 and 1970, I took the necessary courses at Columbia to complete my degree. During that time, I also played concerts in the United States, Europe, the Middle East, Australia, Taiwan, Korea, Australia, New Zealand, Poland, the Soviet Union and the former Yugoslavia as a member of the Iowa String Quartet, the New York Chamber Soloists and as a solo cellist. Then, 1974–2016, I was the cellist of the Juilliard String Quartet and a teacher of chamber music and the cello at the Juilliard School. During that time, I participated with the Juilliard Quartet in recordings of much of the classical, romantic and contemporary string quartet repertory, and toured the world in concerts with the Quartet. In 2011, as a member of the Juilliard String Quartet, I was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (now The Recording Academy). For more than 40 years, I have also had a sonata partnership with pianist Gilbert Kalish '56. Together, we have recorded much of the classical and contemporary repertory for cello and piano, and played numerous recitals together in New York and across the United States.

"Though I have retired from the Juilliard String Quartet, I am proud to continue to teach gifted cellists and chamber groups at Juilliard and to chair the Juilliard cello department. I am also on the faculty of the Kneisel Hall Chamber Music School & Festival, where I perform and teach chamber music and am 'artistic adviser.' I am married (for more than 30 years) to Dinah Straight, a New York City public school teacher for many years. We have two children: daughter Gwen, a professional cellist, and son Josh, a rap producer and composer of hip-hop music."

David Orme-Johnson writes, "My main project these days has been writing my memoirs, which are about being in the middle of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi's TM movement. As director of research at Maharishi European Research University in Switzerland and Maharishi University of Management in Iowa, I was in a position to witness the evolution of the scientific research on enlightenment and its effects on creating coherence in collective consciousness. My memoirs are about the many brilliant and lion-hearted souls I had the privilege to work with and our collective contributions to bringing this ancient knowledge into the modern scientific world. Here is a link to part three of my memoirs published in *Enjoy TM News*, which covers research in the 1970s on the physiological correlates of transcendental consciousness: bit.ly/2C2JFkY. Transcendental consciousness is the silent mind, variously referred to as unbounded awareness, pure consciousness, Samadhi, and, in pre-Socratic philosophy, Being, to give just a few of its names."

Charles E. Miller and a group of other appellate lawyers recently co-founded an enterprise, The Association of Amicus Counsel, which he describes as, "The Association of Amicus Counsel (AAC) is an independent nonprofit of lawyers of diverse backgrounds, affiliations and law practices who are committed to

serving the public interest, and who, by training, scholarship, experience and discernment in their respective areas of the operative law or relevant subject matter, are possessed of the requisite proficiency in preparing and submitting amicus briefs that are helpful to courts and other tribunals. Briefs are submitted by AAC in support of one party or the other or in support of neither party, as may be appropriate. They are written on behalf of individuals and corporate entities, both domestic and foreign, who want their voices heard in precedent-setting litigations whose outcomes will affect the interests of the public, including their own and of others similarly situated. AAC focuses on advancing the science of jurisprudence through the submission of briefs that advocate the correct judicial development of the law in the time-honored tradition of 'friends of the court.'"

Remember, our regular class lunches at the Columbia University Club of New York (for now, we are still gathering at the Princeton Club) are always a great place to reconnect. If you're in NYC, try to make one of the lunches this spring. The next are on April 12, May 10 and June 14. Check cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next. See you at reunion, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2!

Peter Thall '64, author of What They'll Never Tell You About the Music Business, *was interviewed on NPR's "Marketplace" about a songwriter's stream of income.*

1964

Norman Olch
233 Broadway
New York, NY 10279
norman@nolch.com

Gene Meyer writes: "I'm pleased to announce the publication on June 1 of my book *Five for Freedom: The African American Soldiers in John Brown's Army*. It is the story of how and when these five forgotten men came together at a fateful time and place, Harpers Ferry (now West Virginia), in October 1859. For 159 years, they have been overlooked and overshadowed by their charismatic leader.

"It is also a story about their roots — the world into which they were born and grew to adulthood — and about their descendants. It is not only an African-American story; it is very much an American story, it is our nation's story, a story from the past that resonates in the present.

"The book is dedicated to James P. Shenton '49, who inspired me with his lively lectures and seminar on the Civil War and slavery. He also set me on my career path, advising me in my senior year, 'You are more interested in history as it affects the present; you should be a journalist.'"

A link to the book: bit.ly/2Hck39t.

"In other news," Gene continues, "I continue to edit the quarterly *B'nai B'rith Magazine* (now in my ninth year), contribute articles to *The New York Times* and other publications, and serve on the board of the nonprofit online *Washington Independent Review of Books* (wirobooks.com), where I am the chief organizer of panels and recruiter of speakers for our annual conference. My perk is getting to introduce the keynoters, including Bob Woodward, David Maraniss, Judith Viorst, Marie Arana and John Feinstein. This year's keynoter (May 5) is scheduled to be Bob Schieffer.

"Last October, at 75, I had my first *New York Times* op-ed. The subject was giving away my stamp collection, because nobody wants to buy old stamps but there exists an organization that sends them to Vietnam and Korean War veterans in VA hospitals and residences across the country."

Jeff Newman writes, "After I retired from the National Child Labor Committee in January 2017, at my wife's urging I took a so-called part-time job at Trader Joe's in Hartsdale, N.Y. I love it, have lost 25 lbs. and am in better shape than I've been in 30 years (so says my doctor, and so I feel).

"We visit our grandchildren, of course, in New Orleans (2 and 4) every three months, and that adds to our travels because we visit our Los Angeles grandchildren (14 and 9) an equal amount. My daughter, Andrea, is doing very well indeed, and is a full executive producer of *Chicago Fire*, as well as doing potential pilots for NBC. She is a kind of behind-the-scenes star out there, and that's very special."

Beril Lapson, back from one of his many business trips to China, reports that with the shift from coal to natural gas the pollution in Beijing is gone, and the air quality is better than Manhattan's Upper West Side, where he lives.

Peter Thall was interviewed on NPR's "Marketplace" about the acquisition and auctioning of a songwriter's stream of income. Peter is the author of *What They'll Never Tell You About the Music Business*.

Steve Rodner, who played trombone with the Marching Band, has made his debut on YouTube. You can catch him on "Art Smart in a Minute: Trombone with Stephen Rodner": bit.ly/2Brqh4G.

Remember, the class has an informal lunch the second Thursday of every month (except July and August) at the Princeton Club, 15 W. 43rd St. If you live in or around New York City, or are visiting the city, join us.

1965

Leonard B. Pack
924 West End Ave.
New York, NY 10025
leonard@packlaw.us

Dear classmates, after years of inaction I have upgraded my email address to leonard@packlaw.us. Please flood my new inbox with news of your doings, especially any interactions with classmates. I heard from a good number of people since preparing the Winter 2017–18 column.

Maybe I didn't get the memo, but until **Robert Kronley** wrote to me from Havana, I did not know that the University of Havana is modeled after Columbia. Robert; his wife, Ann Rosewater; and Roberta and **Mike Cook** went there and sent the nearby photo as proof. Robert writes, "Ann and I joined Mike and Roberta and their undergraduate sons, Jon and Alex, on a trip to Cuba in late December. Havana is complex and intriguing, with fascinating history, significant architecture, a vibrant arts scene and pulsating street life. One highlight was the University of Havana, modeled throughout and in detail after what our university-based guide proudly referred to as 'Columbia University in New York.' Our reflections on Cuba, which offers much to consider, were stimulated and deepened by Jon and Alex, whose perspectives are fresh and unbound from older ideological concerns."

Steve Steinig wrote to review a book: "I can't remember seeing a sort-of book review in Class Notes, but this book was so good, and an automatic link for all Columbians, that I thought I'd submit it: *An Odyssey: A Father, a Son, and an Epic* by Daniel Mendelsohn. If you've ever read Homer's *Odyssey* (or were supposed to), have had a father or been a son, or have a son of your own, this is a book in which you will feel enriched by virtually every one of its 300 pages. Mendelsohn [is the Charles Ranlett Flint Professor of Humanities] at Bard College. Some years ago, his father sat in on Mendelsohn's freshman seminar on the *Odyssey*, after which the two of them took a cruise through the Greek Isles, tracing Odysseus' route home from Troy. The book is about these two events and much more — it is Mendelsohn's memoir of his family relationships while growing up, especially with his father; about the art of guiding young people to gain confidence in their own view of the world's great literature; and a marvelous review of the action and the words of *The Odyssey*, all put down on paper by a master of writing. Much as **David Denby** JRN'66 did 20 years ago in his spectacular *Great Books: My Adventures with Homer, Rousseau, Woolf, and Other Indestructible Writers of the Western World* (his report on returning to Morningside Heights and to the Core for a year), this book too reports many moments that will make you feel young again, but be warned that you will probably also find passages, to your chagrin, that make you identify with the author's aged father."

Gregory Tarsy sent this update. "Since retiring in 2015 I've been taking classes in ceramics at my local community college and plodding toward having a home studio ... almost there. When I wash the clay off my hands I listen to music from my overly stocked collection



Robert Kronley '65 (left) and Mike Cook '65 traveled to Cuba and took this photo in front of the University of Havana's *Alma Mater* statue.

of recorded music, attend Pilates classes, read *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker*, walk my dog and do the spiritual practice of Subud."

I asked Gregory to tell me about Subud.

He wrote back, "Not many ask! The spiritual practice (Subud is the organization) is called the 'latihan kejiwaan,' which is an Indonesian phrase that just means 'spiritual exercise.' Members have received a way to contact an inner resource that is a connection with the universal energy that drives everything (maybe like the Buddhist 'ground consciousness'). It tends to change one's life — I've been doing this for more than 40 years. More information is available at subud.org."

I asked Gregory how he got started with the practice. He says, "I was living in Carmel, Calif., and following the practice of Zen that I had begun in New York. My circle of friends 'happened' to contain a growing number of people who 'happened' to be in Subud. One night, when having dinner with some of those friends, I had a sudden, very strong feeling that I needed to be in Subud. I had also had a serious yoga practice, so I had some experience with spiritual paths. I have never regretted following that strong feeling. If you want to know more, there is an active Subud group in New York, or hop on a plane to Santa Cruz."

Daniel Waitzman writes: "I've been recovering from my second knee replacement— with two artificial knees, I guess I've joined the ranks of mechanical men. I'm cane-free, but stairs are still painful. My wife, Mona, has had to assist me in my recovery while pursuing her career as an artist.

"In other areas, it looks as if my 1978 book, *The Art of Playing the Recorder*, will be reprinted at long last. The same publisher is going to publish some of my musical compositions as well, and I've been preparing them in PDF format for that purpose. I have also continued to post some on YouTube, in electronic musical instrument digital interface (MIDI) format, along with some of my live performances.

"I often have cause to think of some of the wonderful teachers with whom I studied at Columbia as an undergraduate, as a candidate for my master's in musicology, and at Teachers College. They were consummate musicians all, and I can never thank them enough. I remember Otto Luening, Samuel Baron, Howard Shanet, Genevieve Chinn, Hubert Doris, Paul Henry Lang, Charles M. Walton, Harold Bennett, Rudolf Thomas, Stoddard Lincoln, Laurence Taylor, Peer Westergaard and the rest of that fine faculty. In non-musical areas, I have particularly fond memories of Edward S. Hodgson and Fritz Stern '46, GSAS'53, but there were so many others whom I should like to thank as well. I was certainly not the world's best student, but I can never repay what these people bestowed upon me. I have tried to do so, in some modest ways, through my concerts, musical compositions and writings on music; and as a flute and recorder teacher. My teachers made it seem so easy!

"I don't know whether to laugh or cry when I read of 'trigger warnings' and 'safety zones' at modern universities. Some of my teachers were downright rude when I did less than my best. And while rudeness per se is hardly something to be encouraged, still it is desirable that student and teacher alike be able to take and give criticism and counsel when needed, and to gain some understanding of history and ideas, despite the episodes of unpleasantness that they will inevitably encounter by so doing. In the pursuit and understanding of truth and beauty, one must of necessity acquaint one's self with falsehood and ugliness — and I am saddened by the thought that this platitudinous observation must seem strange to some of our youngsters. Nor should we expect the ancients whose works and ideas we study to behave and speak like model 21st-century citizens. How to explain these things to today's youngsters, while at the same time encouraging them to treat others with respect and consideration — *that* is the age-old problem!"

Laurence Wallach GSAS'73 continues the musical theme: "I've been teaching music — history, theory and composition — at Bard College at Simon's Rock since before the merger with Bard (starting in 1972) and I now have a 'chair' (not a physical one, which I could use, but a virtual one that is good for signing letters of recommendation). I have maintained a concert schedule performing chamber music on piano and harpsichord with some great musicians through the years; for example, this spring Met basso John Cheek and I will perform Schubert's *Winterreise* for the second time. I have also been composing as much as possible given the other activities; last spring was the premiere of a 20-minute orchestral work, *Berkshire Rhapsody*, centered around a spiritual found at the end of W.E.B. Du Bois' *The Souls of Black Folk*. (Du Bois was a Great Barrington native and therefore a centerpiece for Berkshire culture and identity.)

"This year I am reducing to half-time teaching to make more time for playing and composing.

"I have two children, four stepchildren and seven grandchildren. My oldest, Risa, is a cantor in Walnut Creek, Calif., while my youngest, Sara, is a waitress and up-and-coming photographer. My wife, Anne Legêne, whom I met 30 years ago, is a cellist and viola da gambist who belongs to Arcadia Viols, among other groups. They performed at the Folger Shakespeare Library in a holiday program of earlier German music (11 performances!), which gave me an excuse to join them for a few days and binge on Washington, D.C., museums. Washington may now be the belly of the beast, but its museums, libraries and so on remain beacons to remind us of what American civilization still has the potential to be. Highly recommended.

"Leonard, I remember running into you at a Carnegie Hall concert of the Budapest Orchestra under Iván Fischer, with András Schiff playing two Bartók piano concerts. That was about 18 years ago — but I'm sure you remember the concert as well; it was spectacular. (Also on the program: Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite* and *Symphony in Three Movements*.) I had brought my music history class with me to get a taste of the culture that New York has to offer, from which I benefited so powerfully when I was at Columbia. I'll be back (without students) in March to see *Elektra* at the Met. Who knows? Maybe you'll be there as well."

As a matter of fact, I will be there, and I plan to see Larry.

1966

Rich Forzani
413 Banta Ave.
Garfield, NJ 07026
rforzani1@optonline.net

Sad news. We have lost three classmates. **Paul J. Nyden** GSAS'74 was a reporter, highly regarded, for more than 30 years in Charleston, W.Va. We also lost Arne Jensen '67, who spent many years in real estate development on Nantucket. And **Jonathan Kleefield** writes, "It is with extreme grief that I report to you the sudden passing of one of my oldest and closest friends, **Fred Hyman.** Fred died suddenly in his home in Mt. Kisco, N.Y., last October, with his loving wife, Rosalie, at his side. I cannot find sufficient words to express how fortunate I felt to be Fred's friend for more than 50 years. He was one of the most brilliant, unselfish people I have ever met."

Neal Hurwitz: "I have an essay in *A Time to Stir: Columbia '68*, edited by Paul Cronin, out now! Sam Roberts had a review of this in *The New York Times* — said I was more than 'lesser known.'" :)

And I believe the esteemed **Michael Garrett** (not Mike) also appears as a contributor. He has stepped up his game, as heretofore he was known amongst his friends only as an anonymous yet hands-on critic of various Larry Flynt publications. He shares: "After a busy season in the course of which I accepted both a Pulitzer Prize and a Kennedy Center Honor, was nominated for both a Tony and an Academy Award, and placed in the Monte Carlo Triathlon, I spent many long days with my investment

and tax advisers determining how best to invest my embarrassingly large lottery winnings.

"Never mind all that: How about those football Lions? In the latter connection, after they won four games, I was by chance interviewed by a *Spec* reporter, and I told him that if they win another one, the name of the team should be changed from the Lions to the Black Swans — he looked at me cluelessly and walked away."

Geoff Dutton: "I learned that Columbia is commemorating the student uprising of 1968. Few of us have forgotten that and some of us were around. I read in an interview with historian John Campbell McMillan at counterpunch.org: 'This spring, Columbia University hosts a series of events to commemorate, memorialize and perhaps even abuse 1968. Fittingly, Professor McMillan kicked off the series with a talk in Butler Library in January titled 'The Sixties Underground Press and the Rise of Alternative Media in America.' The festivities at Columbia culminate April 27–28, with the return to campus of former student rebels including Mark Rudd ['69].'

"Ah, me. I was just starting to rebel then. I never intended to make it a lifestyle, but my hand has been continually forced by so many continuing outrages. So, what comes to mind when you recall the events of '68 at CU? Compose a memoir and send to geoff@maxentropyproductions.net and I will compile it with others on my site, progressivepilgrim.review. Anyone who wants can then reblog it."

Kenneth Fox: "My son, Zachary, started grad school in sociology, of all things. He looked at political science but none of the courses interested him. Go with what inspires you, I suppose."

Tom Chorba is researching any and all aspects of the following terms: "hate speech" and "hate crimes." Anyone with written information on the origins of these terms or anyone with information/opinions and so on who benefits from the use of these terms is welcome to contact him at tachorba@aol.com. "My opinion is that there is speech and there is crime and that adding the adjective 'hate' weaponizes speech and the open discussion of the underlying terms," he says.

Daniel Gover: "I finally have some news. I am a producer of *Children of Drum*, a documentary history of South African journalism from *Drum* magazine in the 1950s to the present. We interviewed about 20 journalists, mostly in Johannesburg, ranging from some in their 80s to others in their 20s. The story began with my colleague at Kean University, Josephine Nxumalo Norward, the daughter of Henry Nxumalo, the journalist known as Mr. Drum who was killed while investigating the evils of apartheid in 1957. Our director, Larry Tung, had the documentary premiere at the African Diaspora International Film Festival at Teachers College in December. We're hoping for a showing in South Africa this year and then a general release on a video link. Anyone interested should email me: dgover@kean.edu."

Bittersweet news from **John Doody.** First, the sweet: "My news is that after 16 years of bachelorhood, I married Anna Granerud on December 3. **Ken Pearson** was among the few to witness the non-religious ceremony, and he ably assisted as the ring bearer. Among the other '66ers in my innermost circle, only **Tom Harrold** has met Anna. That was a year ago over dinner on St. Barth and we were sorry we couldn't make a repeat visit in January 2018. A year ago I had an inkling that marriage might be a possibility. I am very happy to have Anna join me for the second half of my life. I'm sure with her help it will be even better than the first half!"

Now the bitter: We will no longer be regaled by John's stories of lovely ladies riding on his big boat. And when I asked if he would give it to me, I got no response.

Dan Gardner reports that with advancing age, he and his wife, Esther, sold their BMW a year ago, and they find themselves quite content to live life without generating tailpipe emissions. If that sounds overly valedictory, he also reports that the BMW made room for a clean, beautiful, all-electric Tesla Model S. Forward to the future! (Dan fails to note that the unscrupulous Tesla salesman also sold him a five-mile extension cord, which was later determined to be unnecessary.)

Alexander Auerbach: "A few years ago I decided to do for my own account what I've done for clients of my public relations practice: Publish an online business magazine about a specific topic or sector.

"Originally I launched *The Profit Chain* in conjunction with a supply chain management software startup in which I held an interest. With today's technology, and help from freelance writers and technologists, I can do from my home office what once would have required a team of researchers, writers, graphic artists and so on.

"The only downsides are that a) when I go on vacation I feel I have to bring along a laptop to stay abreast of the news and b) from time to time I bore my wife with a comment about containerization of cargo or the use of blockchain in smart contracts."

News from my second-favorite cantor, next to Eddie: **David Tilman** announces, "Most important news: We are first-time grandparents, to Micah Toby Tilman, son of Rabbi Howard Jonah and Naomi Leah Tilman, born July 28. Howard is rabbi of Congregation Beth Israel, Scotch Plains, N.J. Ellen and I are enjoying this experience so, so much!

"Our daughter, Alana Miriam, is assistant director of Ramah Galim, the newest camp in the Camp Ramah network. Ramah Galim is located on the Pacific coast, south of San Francisco. Ramah Galim, or Camp Ramah of 'Waves,' serves children from Northern California. Ramah Galim combines intensive Jewish life with water sports and a serious performing arts track.

"Son Avrum Michael SEAS'04 is senior software engineer for Bloomberg. He and his team solve computer software problems for divisions within Bloomberg."

Steve Weinberg GSAPP'68: "Still working at my affordable housing consulting practice in New Jersey and at supporting the Habonim Dror youth movement. Oh, yes! Meddling bi-coastally in the lives of our four married children and eight delightful grandchildren, whom we adore. Did I mention agitating for a Democratic takeover of Congress in 2018? Raging against the AI tsunami headed toward my grandkids.

"This year marks the closure of the openings between Columbia's main campus and the outside world. My, my! What might have been the impetus for doing that? Not sure how many CC'66ers were still on campus with me that marvelously fateful, once-in-a-lifetime Spring '68 that the Columbia establishment is still loathe to remember.

"I seem to be losing energy — to age, I guess. Napping. Contradictions. Cracks. Where the light gets in?"

Bob Meyerson: "We are watching Ron Howard's *The Beatles* on PBS. I told my wife that **Richard Milstein** and I did 'The Slop' at Ferris Booth Hall dancing to the Beatles. She had no idea what The Slop was (let alone Ferris Booth Hall, where I made Slop history). So I explained that The Slop was the pre-Frug. And she didn't know what 'The Frug' was! So I showed her. And I impressed her once again. I can tell you for sure we didn't need no Columbia fraternity to do The Frug. Still don't. But for the rest of you '66 Fruggers, be it known that we will be having a Frug party in Atwater, Minn., to celebrate my 75th on August 6, 2019."

Tod Hawks: "My book, *I Write When the River's Down: Poems, Aphorisms, Essays*, is available for purchase. If you would like to buy a copy, please send a check for $30 made out to me, Tod Howard Hawks, and mail it to 1055 Adams Cir., #1225, Boulder, CO 80303. Be sure to include your mailing address.

"I have been a poet and human-rights activist for all my adult life. Even though it has now been more than half a century since I graduated with all of you, I still often reflect fondly on my years with you at Columbia College."

1967

Albert Zonana
425 Arundel Rd.
Goleta, CA 93117
az164@columbia.edu

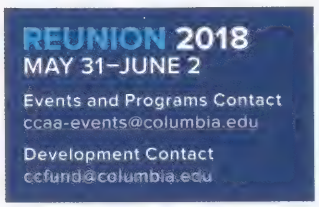
Peter Schneider SOA'72 wrote: "This is the first time I have written in in 51 years. Why? Not to brag about having led a conventionally successful life, which I suppose I have, but rather to engage in a bit of shameless self-promotion. My debut book of poetry, *The Map is not the Territory*, is coming out April 15. Short of trying to hawk my book along with candy bars on College Walk, I'm telling all of you to go to anaphoraliterary.com/catalogue/poetry/peter-schneider and place your advance orders there or order from Amazon or Barnes Ignoble after April 15. And while I'm here, I want to give a shout-out

to my classmates, particularly fellow SDSers and other misfits. May we all survive the age of Trump and not end up as radioactive ashes."

We mourn the loss of **Larry Besserman,** professor of English and distinguished Chaucer scholar. His good friend Joseph Romanelli '62 wrote the following tribute: "Larry passed away in July 2017 after a short bout with cancer, leaving his community of friends stunned. He had recently retired as chairman of the English Department at Hebrew University and was a summer lecturer at Columbia. Larry had an incredible mind. The depth and breadth of his knowledge in most areas awed us all; a true Renaissance man. His academic accomplishments are too numerous to cite. His involvement in his community and synagogue was constant. He was a founder of our men's club, and in the course of 10 years of weekly meetings and discussions, he never failed to perk our minds and add to the value of whatever subject was raised. He was a prayer leader, a fundraiser and event organizer. He served three years of a two-year term as synagogue president when no one else would take the job. If anyone thinks POTUS is a difficult job, it is small potatoes compared to the demands of being a synagogue president. He managed to bring order out of chaos. Along with his serious work, his sense of humor was an integral part of his personality. I recall he once gave a serious philosophical talk using mostly *New Yorker* cartoons. I moved to Israel in 1972; Larry a few years later. We were both members of the Ramot Zion Conservative Synagogue, as well as neighbors and friends. Upon his retirement from Hebrew U., he and his wife, Judy, became leaders in our congregation. He was loved and is missed by all."



1968



Arthur Spector
4401 Collins Ave. 2-1417
Miami Beach, FL 33140
arthurbspector@gmail.com

The Class of 1968 is preparing for its 50th reunion and it looks like it will be a stunningly great event. I volunteered to contact the class by email or phone (with as much class help as possible), and — as of the end of January — we are likely to have 240 attendees (along with Columbia Engineering classmates). And I expect more to come. The turnout might even be the largest of any class that weekend and larger than any other from the past. It will have an array of classmates from across the world.

I have so much enjoyed getting to chat with classmates from a long time ago — what a wonderful opportunity for me (though the actual process has been challenging). Folks are coming from Alaska and Hawaii and Hong Kong and Tokyo and Seattle and L.A. and San Fran and Portland and Toronto and Montreal and Dallas and San Antonio and Chicago and New Orleans and Detroit and Miami and Cleveland and Lansing and Madison and Cambridge and Boston and Georgia and Florida and South Carolina and North Carolina and Maryland and Virginia and D.C. and Maine and Vermont and Arizona and New Mexico and Indiana and Idaho and maybe Lisbon and definitely Paris and I hope London and Amsterdam and Upstate New York and western Mass. and, of course, the city. I suspect the group could grow to 300. Maybe I am dreaming, but I thought 200 would be unlikely.

Some news (it is impossible to note all the anecdotes from the calling!): I spoke to **Ed Weathers,** who sounded upbeat — he is a big fan of **Bruce Margon,** the astronomer in our class. I talked to **George Bernstein** in New Orleans; he sounded chipper. I chatted with **Al Beyer** at the University of South Carolina — he's retiring soon but painting and looking forward to more time to paint. His works are 7 ft. x 8 ft. — we need one for sure.

I could go on and on: **Buzz Zucker** is on his way to Mount Kilimanjaro with his grandkids on a climbing mission. **Robert Brandt** has been a constant new and old friend. **Art Brown** has had many great ideas for reunion. **Hollis Petersen** is back in Key West — his home survived, miraculously.

I am wiped out from the few hours a day of emailing and calling and being a constant appealer. It is understandable that folks want to come if there is going to be a crowd. **Steve Gottlieb** has been kind to chip in for a gift to the class — a book of his photographs. He is definitely hitting tennis balls in world competition. As for **Nigel Paneth** and **John Roy,** both are working hard and taking suggestions for reunion programming. Nigel (in addition to his professorial responsibilities) and John (with his teaching responsibilities) are working hard to ensure a good program (All-Class Reunion, fka Dean's Day, is the Saturday of that same weekend). Those two seem to know large numbers of classmates and I thank them for their efforts.

James Robinson is coming and seems to have a fascinating role at the George Washington University and across the nation. **Ira McCown** and I will be the Miami Beach contingent and the Naples, Fla., contingent will be **Tom Reed, John Roy, Neil Anderson** (I hope), **Roger Berkley** and **Greg Winn.**

I also had a wonderful chat with my almost-neighbor **Tom Ehrenberg** from Vermont. I can't go down the entire list of anecdotes — it would take 10 pages!

Reunion attendees will have lots of time to talk with one another. Suffice it to say, talking to classmates reminds me of the warmth and charm and intelligence of the group. And it has been a pleasure.

I did hear from **Eric Lerner,** and here is most of it (he is coming to reunion): "Our fusion energy project at LPPFusion is making progress, although never as fast as I would like. We're trying to produce a new source of energy that will be clean, safe, unlimited and far cheaper than any available right now. In the past year, we published world-record results for confined ion mean energy (equivalent of almost three billion degrees, 300 times hotter than the center of the sun) and we are featured in a new documentary on fusion research, *Let There Be Light.* Now we're raising crowd-funding investments on wefunder.com. Hope people visit us on the web or stop by in person at our Middlesex, N.J., lab, just an hour from NYC."

I look forward to seeing you all at reunion or hearing from you — it should be a great event, befitting this class. **Ken Tomecki** and I have done your column now for 50 years, so we might need a Diet Coke toast for the privilege of hearing what you are all are up to. I hope everyone is well and that you are able to marvel at Columbia's campus and hear from the dean and enjoy the fun. See you there, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2.

1969

Michael Oberman
Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
1177 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
moberman@kramerlevin.com

In a December 13 email, I invited classmates to send brief comments "on any enduring impact of the events of 1968 on your post-College years." When I sent it, I did not know that Columbia University Press was about to publish *A Time to Stir: Columbia '68*, a collection of some 50 essays by participants in the events including ones by **Vaud Massarsky, Hilton Obenzinger, Fred Pack, Henry Reichman, Mark Rudd** and **Joel Ziff.** But here are the comments I received presented, as in *A Time to Stir,* in alphabetical order:

From **Harvey Bernstein:** "I still show and look at my picture in *Life* magazine in front of Avery Hall with pride."

Harvey was part of the group that was attempting to block police action.

Bruce Dickson shared a letter he had written to his family on April 30, 1968; here is an excerpt: "I was in on the bust this morning at the campus at 3:00 a.m., and it wasn't much fun. I've never seen anything more disgusting in my whole life.

I've always been sort of skeptical about charges of police brutality, but now I don't think I'll ever look at a cop again without getting sort of scared. In order to clear out the buildings, the police had to go through a bunch of teachers and students who stood in front of the doors. After asking the people to move, they waded into them, swinging little blackjacks that appeared from their sleeves just before attacking. Over 200 people had head injuries. After breaking in the doors, they dragged people out. Inside the building, they dragged them by their hair until they were ready to go out by the photographers, then they pulled four cops on one kid. Bystanders were treated almost as bad. They had a lot of plainclothes cops, dressed like students, with billy clubs and pistols concealed. These guys and others would push the crowd around so as not to let anyone see what was going on.

"They eventually herded everyone down to one central area on campus, where we all watched those arrested being put in paddy wagons. They arrested 600. Then everyone was yelling at the cops, but the crowd was hardly a mob. But for some reason the cops suddenly lined up in a single file opposite the crowd, which was being held to one side of a sidewalk. I was about three or four people deep in this crowd, when suddenly (with absolutely no warning or request for the crowd to move) this line of cops ran at us as fast as they could, pushing and swinging and hitting. The crowd ran (I fell) down a bunch of steps and then some stopped. After a few minutes, they did the same thing again, and again, eventually forcing everyone to a corner of the campus. All gates were closed, so people started to panic. I managed to climb over a gate. Then after I was on the Broadway sidewalk, there were maybe 35–40 people who had massed together near this gate. I noticed a bunch of cops starting to form a line just north of us and before we knew what was happening, there was a huge wave of bodies being pushed back and running like mad. Further up the sidewalk, they were riding into crowds with horses. Well, since it looked as if the fun was over, I went home, after watching what looked like the end of Columbia."

Steve Ditlea: "The events of 1968 at Columbia drastically changed my life's direction. As an amateur Nikon F-snapper on campus in my junior year I would see one of my photos of Grayson Kirk's occupied office displayed on the front page of *The New York Times*' early edition — soon followed by a blackjack to my skull in the NYPD raid on Furnald during the second student occupation in May. Ironically, years later the plainclothes cop who hit me would become an employer and a friend. Still, the experience convinced me to get out of harm's way for good, morphing into a writer-journalist, no more the photojournalist. After a fulfilling, decades-long freelance career writing about tech (I used to call Apple when Steve Jobs would pick up the phone at 5 p.m., after the secretary left), business and health, I'm so thankful I went through those epochal times on Morningside Heights."

Kurt J. Meyers '70 and John D'Emilio '70 "enjoyed a most excellent, practically-50-year-reunion last fall at 7,000 ft. in Flagstaff, Ariz."

Robert Friedman pointed out that **Paul Auster**'s novel, *4321*, published last year and short-listed for a Man Booker Prize, has a part about the Columbia strike, including a character named Robert Friedman, "who just happens to be the editor of the *Columbia Daily Spectator*. Strange finding a fictional version of yourself in a novel." Robert added: "I got hooked on journalism in 1968, and I still have the passion all these years later. So I guess that's an enduring impact."

Henry Jackson "remembers that the police presence gave me insight into what it must be like to be occupied. I quickly learned it was a decidedly unpleasant experience."

David Parshall BUS'76: "Whenever I mention Spring 1968 to my wife, Jane, she proudly asserts that it was not Columbia that initiated the movement, but Cal Berkeley, where she did her undergraduate studies. In the mid-1970s, after things had calmed down a bit, Jane and I met at the Business School. In later years all three of our children studied at Columbia. Throughout all those years and beyond (in riots or in peace), Columbia College deserves accolades for perpetuating the Core Curriculum, albeit with some modifications, in a setting that has always encouraged provocative debate. The Spring of 1968 was indeed a milestone event, but over time it seems to me a mere blip in a continuously vibrant and enduring university community."

David Rosedahl: "Transformative to say the least. I often wonder where all those radical guys concerned about 'working-class folks' ended up. They used to tell me about their extremely thrifty travel to Europe during summer months. I was digging ditches in my hometown."

Peter Rugg: "It was a particularly trying time for me — because of a closeness in names, people thought I might be **Mark Rudd**. There was a lot of anger then particularly directed at the 'establishment' viewed through the University role in the 'Military Industrial Complex.' The violence and failure to observe the rule of law were as regrettable then as they are now. We did learn to listen to the other side and make our own judgments about significant issues and opportunities. Perhaps these lessons are more valid than ever in 2018."

Bill Sleeper: "1968 was certainly a major year from both a Columbia and a personal experience. Having met Margarita Rosa BC'69 during Freshman Week, we became engaged in spring 1967 and married in June 1968. **Rick Prouser** was our best man and **John Herbert** was the master of ceremonies. We have four children and seven grandchildren. Our oldest is Bill Jr. SEAS'91."

Frank Spadaro: "1968 was a milestone in the destruction of western civilization. I find it hard to understand how young men with promising minds could end up many years later defending and misrepresenting the self-absorbed nihilism that was exhibited on campus in Spring 1968. Many of the violent and vulgar campus protesters have become mendacious, dishonest and arrogant old fools. The only real value to me in the long run is that I was a witness to one of the most destructive episodes in the history of higher education in the west, but that experience possibly provided me with a certain clarity as to the nature of the destructiveness of the '60s and the rabid and mindless fascination with Marxism so many embraced and continue to use, albeit cryptically and corruptly as a moral basis for their views. That clarity of thought was the beginning of my long drift toward traditionalist and conservative thinking. Perhaps that early and extreme exposure to the mindless nihilism of our age has helped to defend myself from it.

"I am an architect. My work is my autobiography. My latest architecture is an expression of traditional and classical architecture derived from a modern sensibility. Columbia's teachers helped me to get where I am. They helped me to make some important first moves. In particular, I remember Howard Hibbard, Meyer Schapiro (Class of 1924), GSAS'35 and Fred Dupee. In freshman year I was fortunate to study with Donald Dewey, who introduced me to Edmund Burke, and in Humanities I studied with Arcadi Nebolsine GSAS'71, whose broad culture and traditionalist Orthodox and Roman Catholic leanings (he comes from a Russian noble family that fled communism) probably helped me to form the serious misgivings I have about what happened on campus in 1968. Columbia was a great institution. We helped destroy it. That is our legacy."

Alan Sullivan: "The events of Spring 1968 were the most memorable of my undergraduate experience. I was taking a seminar in Victorian prose from Lionel Trilling (Class of 1925), GSAS'38, and as the result of the shutdown, the class met in the Trillings' apartment on Claremont Avenue for a few weeks. Since we were meeting in her living room, Diana Trilling joined the class. She served tea and coffee and, of course, had her own views of the books and essays we were reading at that point in the syllabus, one of which (appropriately enough) was Matthew Arnold's *Culture and Anarchy*. The class was a great lesson in the relevance of English literature, all the more so because we were part of the Trillings' life for a while. I also vividly remember seeing Professor Fred Dupee, face bloodied, limping home at dawn after that

night when the police entered Hamilton Hall by force. Faculty members whom I admired very much became, for me, people whose lives were, like mine, dislocated by the remarkable events of that period."

I close with a few of my own personal recollections. In Spring 1968, I was editor-in-chief of the *Columbia Course Guide*, which for the first time was a printed booklet and was distributed to all students and faculty for free. Our staff had just completed delivering copies to faculty mailboxes on the morning of April 23, with some concerns about the fall-out to follow. As I was walking back to Carman, I saw that my freshman-year Carman suitemate, **Mark Rudd**, was speaking on the Sundial and I heard him say, "We can go to Racist Gym or …"; I am not sure he stated an alternative before the crowd moved to the Morningside Park. In the next year, I was a College Representative on the University Presidential Search Committee. I do find it notable that, on this 50th anniversary, the chair of the University Board of Trustees is a member of the Class of 1969 (**Jonathan Schiller**).

1970

Leo G. Kailas
Reitler Kailas & Rosenblatt
885 Third Ave., 20th Fl.
New York, NY 10022
lkailas@reitlerlaw.com

Before getting into the notes, I would recommend to all of you in the New York area to look into the colloquia offered by the Friends of the Heyman Center for the Humanities. I went to a discussion on Pamela Hansford Johnson given by Professor Deirdre David GSAS'78 and was enthralled by the presentation.

Kurt J. Meyers writes, "**John D'Emilio** GSAS'72, a Chicagoan now, and I and my wife, Sara, from Tucson, enjoyed a most excellent, practically-50-year-reunion last fall at 7,000 ft. in Flagstaff, Ariz. Amazingly, our daughter and her family, as well as John's brother and his wife, live there. John and I conversed seamlessly for some eight hours, also reminiscing about our Columbia days, which included sophomore year in John Jay and senior year on Riverside Drive. I think we can both attest that the bonds formed at Columbia made near five decades seem but five months."

David Lehman, the series editor of *The Best American Poetry*, performed a poetry reading on December 13 at the Cornelia Street Café. David read his translations of Mayakovsky; Andrey Gritsman read the poems in Russian and the two read other poems and translations, as well. The cafe is at 29 Cornelia St. in NYC — a block on which Auden once lived.

Michael Aeschliman GSAS'91, a professor emeritus at Boston University, and a prolific author, sent me a link for his latest publication: bit.ly/2siljUK. Michael's thought-provoking essay points to the "rampant intellectual reductionism" that is characteristic of "'progressive' libertine, and reductionist departures from and denials or violations" of traditional Western and world ethics. This is a very interesting essay.

1971

Jim Shaw
139 North 22nd St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
jes200@columbia.edu

Happy spring, Class of 1971! **Bill Christophersen** writes, "Here are a few memories from the start of freshman year, half a century ago: Discovering the Postcrypt, where Bluegrass Parmesan was playing, a band that featured superpickers-to-be Ken Kosek, Andy May, David Nichtern '68 and Pete Wernick '66, GSAS '73. Getting back my first English paper, which I'd typed on onion skin, and reading Professor Howard Schless' comment, 'Please: No more toilet paper.' Walking in late to a CC class on the empirical philosophers as someone was saying, 'I think the key to Locke is …'. Being introduced by singer-guitarist John Tucker '72, GSAS'89 to the songs of Maine folksinger Gordon Bok during a candlelit song swap at Warmth, a second-story hangout on Amsterdam Avenue. Taking a departmental test administered during Freshman Week that offered the chance to place out of freshman comp by writing an essay on a Robert Graves poem, 'Warning to Children,' that cautioned the reader not to untie the string on the package of life. Attending a rally on the Low Steps at which Columbia's then-VP assured students that the University was not engaged in war research for the Institute for Defense Analysis — whereupon SDS' research committee, hitting the stacks in Butler, found, photocopied and distributed evidence it was.

"My second collection of poems, *The Dicer's Cup*, was released last summer. The collection, whose mix of free and formal verse poet Valerie Wallace has praised, treats such subjects as bumming through Scotland, battling a stormy surf and coping with a grandmother's suicide.

"Several of the poems draw on musical themes and contexts (I'm a bluegrass fiddler). Setting off the narrative poems is 'Apostrophes,' a sequence of lyrical poems in a more experimental and urgent vein. A third collection, *Tableau with Crash Helmet,* will be published shortly.

"I began writing in college. Kenneth Koch's modern poetry class shook up my sense of what poems can be and do, and poets Bill Zavatsky and Gregory Orr, whom I heard read, offered further examples."

Do Bill's memories bring back yours? What are they?

From **Arvin Levine:** "I've been telling people, especially since the inauguration last January, that I take personal responsibility for the sad state of politics in the United States today. Of course, what I mean is that the result of actively trying (and succeeding, it would seem) to change the political system (in fact I probably played a very minor, if not insignificant, role and should not take credit at all, but what can you do? someone has to step forward), achieved the unanticipated consequence of making the government less functional and responsive, rather than more responsive. I probably should have known better, but there you have it.

"I am not advocating a return to status quo ante, but am starting to look for a better way forward. Personally, I hold our class, as severally and jointly responsible with me — especially since we put Columbia in the forefront of that movement.

"Can we hijack this column (perhaps in part) to solicit suggestions for an approach that we can espouse? This is not a political action plea per se. Rather, with some degree of hubris, I believe it's time for us to finally get serious and fix what we broke (not generally my specialty). We're CC'71, plenty smart and creative. Any takers?"

Do Arvin's comments about the state of politics and the way forward make you think? Share your comments with classmates.

Remember back 51 *(fifty-one!)* Septembers ago, and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

1972

Paul S. Appelbaum
39 Claremont Ave., #24
New York, NY 10027
pappel1@aol.com

Jerry Lynch LAW'75 has been doing something interesting lately: "To set the stage: After graduating I went directly to law school, with some vague aspiration to do more good in the world than might come from pursuing a Ph.D. in classics. I found the experience more intellectually interesting than I expected, and after a couple of years clerking for judges, I returned to the Law School as a junior faculty member. I've been on the faculty pretty much continuously for the last 40 years, though with breaks to pursue full-time public service as a federal prosecutor and part-time gigs as a special prosecutor (biggest accomplishment in that vein: losing the Oliver North case in the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals) and white-collar defense lawyer (biggest accomplishment: winning reversal of the mail fraud conviction of the president of the country's largest aviation insurer). In 2000, I was one of the last Clinton appointees to the United States District Court. After nearly a decade as a trial judge in the Southern District of New York (one of the best jobs in the world), I was 'elevated' (I kid you not, that's a technical term used by Congress for what created the opening for my successor) to the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit as one of President Barack Obama '83's first nominees in 2009. Through the last 17 years on the bench I have continued to teach at the Law School, mostly first-year criminal law to about 100 students per year, but also such subjects as sentencing, advanced civil procedure and appellate advocacy. So that's the nutshell of how I've spent the last 45 years professionally.

"But as I approached my 65th birthday, I began to tire of the grind of grading 100 criminal law exams every spring (only those of our classmates who have attended law school will have some idea of what an unpleasant task that is), and began to wonder if I might try something else. So I successfully persuaded the dean of the Law School and the chair of Literature Humanities at the College to let me take on a small section of the first semester of Lit Hum. After all, I argued, I had at least as much background in the classics, having read most of the texts on the syllabus multiple times in multiple translations, and having read more than half in the original languages (albeit many years ago). I suppose the dean paid me so little as a part-time faculty member, and the chair had little enough to lose exposing 22 freshmen to an amateur classicist for a semester, that both agreed to the project. And so for the last two falls I have engaged with College first-years in reading *The Iliad*, *The Odyssey*, Sappho, the *Book of Genesis*, the *Oresteia*, *The Bacchae*, *Antigone*, excerpts from Herodotus and Thucydides, Plato's *Symposium*, *The Aeneid* and some of Ovid's *Heroides* …

"The students are great. Yes, they have absorbed some combination of politeness and relativism that makes them a bit more reluctant to confront one another or the professor than our brash and arrogant generation was. (I'd long noticed this in law students as well; students inclined to take a diametrically opposed position to what a classmate had just said tended to buffer their comments with a respectful nod to the other student's different experience and right to their point of view.) But they remain open to different points of view and are intellectually curious. They are indeed a bit more carefully tended than we were in the anarchic days of 1968, a trend about which I was ambivalent. … But the students are a pleasure to teach, and when I did encounter an excellent student who stopped coming to class for unexplained reasons, I found that my concern for the student's well being made it quite comfortable for me to consult the relevant adviser and try to figure out how best to engage the student about possible problems.

"So I guess I'm here to testify that the Core remains strong at Columbia College, that the books we were taught remain important, and that 'the kids are alright.'"

Jerry has been married for 45 years to Karen Marisak BC'72, a practicing clinical psychologist. Their son, Chris Lynch '02, practices law in Washington, D.C., "making us very happy, as he moved there from Los Angeles, bringing my amazingly sweet and smart 3-year-old granddaughter, Olivia, closer to home."

Another of our classmates on the Columbia faculty, **Steven Bellovin**, has also been teaching in a new setting. "A lot of my work in recent years has focused on the legal and policy aspects of technology. Because of that, I'm now an affiliate faculty member at the Law School. That is, of course, in addition to my normal faculty work at Columbia's computer science department."

Larry Boorstein SEAS'78, BUS'88 is also on the move: "I joined Green Powered Technology in Washington, D.C., in June as project manager/engineer, responsible for support to the U.S. Trade and Development Agency in the area of transportation engineering services. In March 2016, I received the designation of Certified Project Manager from AECOM and in July 2014 the 40 years of service award.

Some of you undoubtedly saw **Sean Wilentz**'s op-ed about our current President in *The New York Times*. The title, "They Were Bad. He May Be Worse," says it all. Sean's new book, to appear soon, is *No Property in Man*, on slavery, antislavery and the Constitution, based on his 2015 Huggins lectures at Harvard.

Talking about new books, **David Stern**'s latest is *The Jewish Bible: A Material History*. David explores the Jewish Bible as a material object — the bibles that Jews have actually held in their hands — from its beginnings in the Ancient Near East through to the Middle Ages to the present moment. After a full career at Penn, David is now the Harry Starr Professor of Classical and Modern Jewish and Hebrew Literature at Harvard.

Armen Donelian, pianist extraordinaire, stepped into a different role this February as the curator of the first Hudson Jazz Festival, upriver in Hudson, N.Y. "I see this festival as a rare opportunity both to raise regional jazz awareness as well as to reward loyal jazz fans with a first-rate presentation." Armen performed "Songs of My Ancestors," an Armenian-themed set of selections from his double CD of the same name.

Finally, congratulations to my old debate partner, **Jim Sabella**, and his wife, Julia BC'71, GSAS'76, who became grandparents last fall thanks to son Jonathan and daughter-in-law Kristen. Jim and his daughter, Jennifer, who recently moved to Baltimore, had a vacation together in Havana.

Submit Your Photo

CCT welcomes Class Notes photos that feature at least two College alumni. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

1973

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Barry Etra
1256 Edmund Park Dr. NE
Atlanta, GA 30306
betra1@bellsouth.net

Wow — 45 years. Who woulda thunk?

Richard Abels GSAS'82 caught us up on many years; he retired last June from the Naval Academy, where he taught for 35 years and was the history department chair for six of them. Retirement suits him, he says — he's been playing tennis and fulfilling book contracts he'd put on hold. His biography of Æthelred the Unready (who lost to the Vikings, as his name befit him) is due out in October; the second edition of his *Alfred the Great: War, Kingship and Culture in Anglo-Saxon England* will follow, probably in 2019. Richard has been married for 42 years to Ellen Harrison BC'74, an attorney for the DEA. He says, "I never would have believed I'd have a career teaching medieval history at the USNA, or that I'd be married to a DEA lawyer!"

They have a son and a daughter and several grandkids.

Josh Aronson, a documentary film producer/director, is producing a film about vets with PTSD and their service dogs who "bring them back to life." The film is called *To Be of Service* and, Josh says, "Seeing these broken warriors close up reveals the deeper theme: the cost of war."

The film will be out next year; learn more at aronsonfilms.com.

Doug Andrews GSAS'76 settled in London in 2002 after stints in Italy, Switzerland, the Czech Republic and Belgium. He exited his second healthcare startup last year and co-founded another healthcare platform company, Double-Wing Pharma, which markets and distributes China-produced medical devices in Europe and European-manufactured devices in China.

Gotta love someone who keeps the balance!

That's all you wrote. Until we meet again. (In June? In NYC? It's our 45th reunion, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2!)

1974

Fred Bremer
532 W. 111th St.
New York, NY 10025
f.bremer@ml.com

This will be a shorter-than-normal column, as I am recovering from shoulder surgery. If you sent in a note that is not shown here, look for it in the Summer column.

In one of the few Christmas letters I still receive, word came from **Bryan Berry** in Joliet, Ill., of his many trips and family events. You might be interested to learn that he is finishing a book on religious and political controversies and changing perspectives on the past.

Asher Miller LAW'77 wrote that he is a practicing trusts and estates lawyer with the firm he co-founded in 2000, Cooperman, Lester, Miller, Carus. They have offices in both Manhasset and Manhattan. His older daughter, Lauren, recently moved to Israel, and Asher and his wife, Karyl, make frequent trips to see her and the grandchildren. Younger daughter

Rebecca is an occupational therapist for the New York City Department of Education and "lives within a stone's throw of Columbia."

Asher adds, "Last summer I had the pleasure of having breakfast in Santa Monica, Calif., with my old friend **Steve Silberman**. We see each other every few years when one of us is on the other's coast." Asher tells us that Steve continues to trade options and has moved from Beverly Hills to Westwood to live closer to his son Jimmy and grandchildren.

Word came from **Peter Zegarelli** DM'78, a dentist in Sleepy Hollow, N.Y.: His son James has given him his first grandchild, Jack Charles Zagarelli. James is quite busy, working for a startup by day and doing an executive M.B.A. at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business at night. He was formerly a captain in the Marines. Daughter Clare moved from Paris to Philadelphia to do strategic planning for the French building materials company CertainTeed.

There you have it. Short and sweet. Classmates choosing to keep working in their professions, but taking time to see family and their old Columbia buddies. I promise the next column will be longer — especially if you take a moment to tell your classmates what you and your family are up to!

1975

Randy Nichols
734 S. Linwood Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21224
rcn2day@gmail.com

Peter Garza-Zavaleta traveled back to the United States and spent much of the winter holidays in Texas with his "beautiful sister" (his words!) Josefina, who attended our 35th reunion with him.

William H. McCarthy Jr.'74 — "Mac" to us — contacted me just after the last issue of *CCT* hit the streets. While Mac is officially CC'74 due to graduating in less than four years, we claim him as ours, as he started with us in 1971. Mac and **Jim Dolan** became good friends when they were both living in the Washington, D.C., area, and Mac also got to know Fr. **CJ McCloskey.** Mac recounted stories of some of his trips to Europe, including a weekend Fourth of July getaway with **Ed Dolan** and his family. You might recall that Mac, **Charles Lindsay, Jose Martinez** and I were freshmen roomies in Carman Hall.

As usual, I traveled to Wisconsin for the winter holidays to see family and friends. On my way back to the airport in Milwaukee, I visited a place I recall from my younger years — the Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, aka The Domes (milwaukeedomes.org). The facility includes three large geodesic domes; one desert, one tropical and one used for thematic displays (so it was a holiday village in December). I remember them from visits with family and friends almost 50 years ago. It was a fun trip down memory lane!

And, of course, it's almost impossible to go a day without hearing or reading about *Fire and Fury*, **Michael Wolff**'s recent book about the Trump White House. I've tried to contact Michael several times over the years, with no response.

Michael, if you read this, please check in. I would love to be able to share something — anything — direct from you with classmates!

1976

Ken Howitt
1114 Hudson St., Apt. 8
Hoboken, N.J. 07030
kenhowitt76@gmail.com

Greetings '76ers! I am now entering my fourth year as the fearless reporter for the Bicentennial Class. The column is now taking on the characteristics of a television series (most times a comedy). We have regular cast members and a revolving list of notable guest stars. I hope the entire CC'76 alumni roster becomes regulars, and that I have to become an editor rather than a writer.

Our regular cast member, **Dennis Goodrich,** made a day trip into the city and he, **Mike Yeager** and I got together for lunch at P.J. Clarke's downtown location near the World Financial Center. The day was bright and sunny and the view of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island was spectacular. The day became sunnier when my daughter, Katherine Howitt '13, joined us. She filled us in on her current work situation and then sat patiently through the details of major back surgery (Mike) and hip replacement surgery (Dennis). Both surgeries went well, and only Mike was still using a cane that day; in a subsequent phone call, Mike informs me that the cane is now history.



KEN HOWITT '76

Mike Yeager '76, Katherine Howitt '13 (daughter of Ken Howitt '76) and Dennis Goodrich '76 at lunch at P.J. Clarke's downtown location.

To include Katherine in a subject that was closer to her generation, Mike and Dennis started trading freshman football stories from 1972. (Now, today's nomenclature for students in their first year at Columbia is "first-years," but since Columbia was single-sex in our day, your class correspondent is reverting to the term from our era.) After listening to these stories and hearing the surgery reports, I am glad that my trips to the old Baker Field had me playing trumpet in the Marching Band (freshmen year) or sitting in the press box for WKCR broadcasts. For me to have that kind of surgery, I guess I would have to had done some sort of physical activity in the last 63 years!

The epilogue for the lunch story is that Dennis later called me and told me to ask Mike to send him another business card. The business card that he got at our lunch was found half eaten on the floor of Dennis' house. The culprit was our class' situation comedy pet, the Goodriches' dog Mica. Mica is quickly becoming the most mentioned feature of our column.

Kevin McCoy wrote in with a great story. Kevin is a reporter (in his 18th year at *USA Today*). During his career, he has covered everything from the 1993 World Trade Center bombing to the 9-11 attacks to Hurricane Katrina, plus investigations of prosecutorial misconduct and prescription drug safety. Here is his story: "March 1991, a call from Columbia University comes into the city desk of the now-late and lamented *New York Newsday*. 'They're calling in an obit,' says the clerk who took the call. 'OK, switch it to me,' I replied.

"CU: We'd like you to publish an obituary for one of our former professors.

"KM: Fine. What's the professor's name?

"CU: Donald Frame [GSAS'41].

"KM: Oh, yes, he's the guy who did the definitive translation of Michel de Montaigne's essays. (Dead silence for a moment.)

"CU: How do you know that?

"KM: He was my Literary Humanities I teacher at Columbia. Great teacher. Taught me a lot. Go ahead with the rest of the bio information.

"True story — not fake news," Kevin's email concluded!

Gordon Kit let me know earlier last year (too late for the Winter 2017–18 edition) about a film festival that was on campus in March in honor of his parents. I went to a few films and the opening. It was a big success. The festival was funded by a donation to the School of the Arts and will continue for 10 years. Here is a brief description: The Dr. Saul and Dorothy Kit Film Noir Festival — the first in a 10-year series exclusively devoted to the legacy of *film noir* — returned us to that pivotal moment in film history some seven decades ago. For its inaugural year, the Kit Film Noir Festival presented eight of the films that screened in France that season and inspired the

label 'film noir.' All films were shown in 35mm. Screenings were accompanied by talks featuring film scholars James Naremore; Thomas Elsaesser, visiting professor of film in the Faculty of the Arts; and Annette Insdorf, professor of film in the Faculty of the Arts. Here's a list of the films that were shown: *The Maltese Falcon; Double Indemnity; The Lodger; Laura; Murder, My Sweet; The Suspect; Phantom Lady;* and *Scarlet Street.*

Gordon is a retired lawyer who lives in Washington, D.C., studied biochemistry as an undergraduate and still laments that during that time, the University did not yet have a robust program devoted to film — but noir had already taken hold of him. "I appreciated the cinematography and experimentalism with using the camera, but I also liked the dialogue. The repartee between men and women in a lot of these movies is fascinating," he says.

He joked that attempts to reenact the snappy, fast-talking banter did not go over well when he attended Columbia. "The problem is, you see these movies in high school and then go to college and think this is the way you talk to women, and it didn't quite translate," he says, laughing.

The festival is named after Gordon's parents. His mother, Dorothy, was an interior decorator who also wrote poetry and plays and was strongly interested in the arts. His father, Saul, was a scientist with an extraordinary 35-year career that included important discoveries in cancer, virology and vaccine research. His career was centered in Houston, where Gordon was born. In 1987, Saul, along with his son Malon (Gordon's older brother), were honored with the Distinguished Inventor of the Year Award for developing the world's first genetically engineered vaccine to be licensed by the United States government. Saul and Malon were granted numerous U.S. and international patents for their pioneering vaccine inventions, aided by their patent attorney son/brother, Gordon.

So that concludes another episode in this continuing series. Thanks to our guest stars this time — **Kevin McCoy, Gordon Kit** and **Mike Yeager** — and to our soon-to-be co-star regular, **Dennis Goodrich**. Most of all thanks, as always, to Mica (please note that due to *CCT* style, only classmates are listed in boldface).

This column is a good mix of stories, reports, encounters and news. I don't like being entertaining — I would much rather report — so please send some items (and pictures) in soon.

Remember, if you are coming to NYC, you can take a boat to Hoboken for lunch, or I will take a boat to NYC for lunch.

1977

David Gorman
111 Regal Dr.
DeKalb, IL 60115
dgorman@niu.edu

Dateline Texas: **Tim Kayworth** became associate dean for graduate business programs at Baylor University. He anticipates a lot of travel in this position, nationally and internationally.

As I reported earlier, I saw **Bill Dorsey** at reunion last June. Bill is a social worker resident in Santa Rosa. Well, he was until October 9. He writes, "Our house was one of thousands destroyed in the Northern California wildfires. We had lived in our home in the Coffey Park neighborhood for 23 years, and were able to escape with the clothes on our backs, the computer and a few minor items. This has been a devastating time for us. As you might imagine, we go from being grateful that we are alive, to depressed that we have lost so much, to frustrated dealing with insurance (try to inventory everything in your home, from the furniture — manufacturer and description of the fabric — down to how many screwdrivers you had and how long you owned them). We have also been the beneficiaries of many blessings, from generosity of friends, to help from the United Way and Red Cross. Sort of a turnabout for me, a social worker, being on the receiving end of donations!"

Bill reports that his wife, Lynn, and sons, Brendan (25) and Brian (22), are safe and adjusting to a "new normal" in a local rental. Bill plans to rebuild, undaunted at the thought it will take two or three years. Not the smallest among Bill's losses were his beloved drum sets, but he hopes to "get back to playing soon."

That is the kind of guy he is, and I'm sure everyone joins me in wishing him luck.

1978

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Matthew Nemerson
35 Huntington St.
New Haven, CT 06511
matthewnemerson@gmail.com

As we get ready for our 40th reunion, in just a few months, I remind you that I mentioned in my recent letter soliciting these notes (a record response by the way, thank you) that I had a minor heart thing while at the gym one morning in October. Well, I just came back from the doctor and all sorts of tests and I was told that there is no damage and I can continue my reckless lifestyle of late nights at the office and a glass of Pinot Noir alternate Saturdays. It did bring up all sorts of thoughts of what the heck has happened during the last 40 years, and many of you wrote about your own observations about life and its alternatives. Save the best for campus in late May.

We open with our classmate most likely to be played by Matt Damon in a movie, **Chris Dell:** "Forty years on I'm looking at several kinds of transitions. After living abroad for the last 21 years, I'll be moving back to the United States just in time for our reunion. My wife is going on a one-year unaccompanied tour in Pakistan, so I had to find a place to be. Although I'd have preferred either Sofia or Lisbon over TrumpTown, D.C. it is.

"Foremost of which is my entry into a 'third' career as an investment banker. After three years with Bechtel, I've become a senior adviser to Fieldstone Africa, an independent investment bank focusing on power and infrastructure projects. I'm going to continue working with them part-time as their Washington anchor. This should leave me enough time to continue my other projects, including a hoped-for book on the Portuguese Discoveries. Otherwise, to key off Matt's notes, while I feel the hot breath of age at my back, thankfully the old vessel hasn't yet sprung any major leaks. All being well, I'm looking forward to seeing classmates at reunion!"

Ian Silverman notes, "Also had some health concerns, which spurred me to buy a vacation retirement home for future plans. Received an honorary doctor of divinity from JTS for my rabbinic work of 25-plus years. I'm now in my 15th year with East Northport Jewish Center. Cannot understand how 40 years flew by quite so fast, but have overall enjoyed a marvelous journey. I'm looking forward to having more control over my time and more time to relax read and write."

Jeffrey Canfield SIPA'82 is healthy and working for the Defense Department in Kabul doing great things for all of us and jokingly writes, "I'm actively reducing my life expectancy by regrettably breathing the air in Kabul, but I'm looking forward to the opportunity to read all the books I should have read during the last 40 years and continuing to support and enjoy the arts."

The globe trotter hints that when he graduated 40 years ago he felt New York was nowhere ….

Larry Friedman SIPA'81, LAW'82 writes, "I am about to mark 32 years (yikes!) with Thompson Coburn, where I am a business litigation partner. I'm married to Randi Mozenter, a clinical psychologist; it's a second marriage for both of us and we recently bought a house — as it turns out, from a Columbia grad, Andrey Shaw '79 (bonus Class Note: he and his wife were moving to California). My wife is president of a St. Louis synagogue (Kol Rinah), whose members include **Mitch Halpern** and Amy Friedman BC'77. I'm always happy to get together when any Columbia/Barnard alums find their way to St. Louis."

My WKCR-AM fellow evening "shock jock" **Jeff Klein** has moved back to his hometown to work for the University of Buffalo, but he's keeping his apartment near our campus. He's most looking forward to something changing in Washington, D.C., soon.

Big-time public intellectual, *The Nation*'s man in London **Don Guttenplan** is looking forward to "watching my kids as adults; having more time with friends; growing apples."

Don remembers NYC in the 1970s: "I think it was **Joel Charap** who had a whole riff about commuting to work via 'photon torpedo.' I loved my 20 years in New York, but increasingly the city seems dysfunc-

tional when I visit — a playground for the rich and torture chamber for the poor. Living in the United Kingdom I've really learned to appreciate the more banal forms of socialism (a national health service, publicly funded higher education)."

Steve Bargonetti, always somewhere on stage, is now headed to the theater in Chicago: "I will be playing guitar parts for the new musical *The Cher Show*. It's scheduled to be on Broadway this fall. I'm also recording albums for new artists, as well as an album for screen veteran Brian Stokes Mitchell."

Living the life in the midst of Silicon Valley, retired **Victor Leong** got started late: "Most of my friends are empty-nesters and some are grandparents. I still have one child in high school and another in middle school. What was I thinking?! Kidding aside, I'm in good health and enjoying life. Why California? I thought NYC would have become more like *Bladerunner* by now."

Mark Stanford, with whom I spent a lot of time hanging around in Livingston, has left the life of dentistry in Jersey and is "enjoying retired life in beautiful Sarasota. Teaching part-time."

Similarly, **Larry Quinn** is "Happily retired! Living the great life!" in Garden City, N.Y., his "slice of paradise!"

"New York periodontist, no longer in practice, but I'm looking forward to senior discounts," reports **Carl Caravana** DM'87.

One of the first women to graduate from the College, **Ann Candy Stein** SEAS'78, will retire, "but not until fall, so there will be more time for friends and family and no more nights and weekends on-call, but I have enjoyed my 29 years practicing as a hand and orthopedic surgeon in Rutland, Vt.," she says.

Always pithy **Ed Ferguson** sums it up for many of us: "Though I've had more than a year of practice, I still can't get the hang of having my age start with a 6!"

Definitely not retired is **Joe Schifilliti** in Atlanta: "I recently completed my M.J. (master's of jurisprudence) in healthcare law at Loyola Law School Chicago. Although I was not the beneficiary of e-learning at Columbia, it was a pleasant flash of 21st-century technology that made it possible. Gathering a transcript from CC took a bit of effort. Apparently, our records are kept in a bin in the basement of Hartley. Anyway, it is nice entering a later chapter of life with new creds and renewed interest in medicine."

A nice note from **Kevin Vitting:** "I enjoyed the photo of you at the Yale Bowl [Winter 2017–18 issue]. Looking back on our years at Columbia, it's amazing how much our world has changed since Ford was President. I try to imagine college life with smartphones and iPads and internet and social media. It all went by so quickly. We spent four years as undergraduates, followed by four decades as alumni. So much of what I know of Lion lore has come from reading *CCT* all these years. And most of what I know of our classmates' triumphs and milestones has come from the pen of our Humble Scribe."

Tom Reuter shared a story many of us can relate to: "January marked 40 years since I started dating my wife, Grace DeSimone Reuter BC'78. We used to have dinner at Tom's Restaurant every Wednesday night before she taught a freshman biology lab session."

How many of us, looking back, can say, "If only I had invested in that gizmo or that brownstone in the '70s?" Tom notes: "In April 1978 I heard about a new technology at school. One of the Engineering students was going to Chicago to test a new radio phone for limousine occupants to make telephone calls. The radio would talk to these towers and then place the phone call via landlines. I wish I had not thought about it as just a toy for the wealthy!"

On the other hand, **Peter Samis** from the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and author of *Creating the Visitor-Centered Museum,* just got the wedding bug: "On June 25, I married Mary Curtis Ratcliff, my life partner and an artist in her own right, on our 30th anniversary (call me a casualty of the '60s–'70s divorce boom: marriage didn't hold much appeal to me for most of my adult life). Since we weren't exactly a brand-new couple, we told our friends and family we would come to them and make it a progressive party: Ceremony in Berkeley for West Coast folks; a party in New York (at pal Elena Seibert BC'77's loft) for East Coast friends and family (including my mom, Shirley Samis BC'43) and finally, a picnic in Paris at the Luxembourg Gardens for our Europals, followed by a honeymoon in Portugal and various other art destinations. A wonderful, soulful, memorable summer!"

Another Californian (but going the other way) **Michael Wilhite** GSAPP'07 says, "A lot of memories are flashing back from those first days at Columbia and being in New York City as I write this. My high school counselors tried to convince me to stay in California for college. I never wavered in my commitment to coming to NYC. I have made some lifelong friends and created a ton of NYC memories (making my first snowman with Big Joe on Christmas). Even when I graduated and headed back to California, I had the goal of returning. I returned to NYC in 2006 to attend the Architecture School and participate in the boom of real estate opportunities in NYC. I saw a great metropolis, even in 1978 darkness. I have not been disappointed!"

Bennett Caplan, Calvin Parker, Rob Chametzky, Tony Dellicarri and **Joe Vidulich** wrote this remembrance of **Gary Becker,** who died of a stroke at 61 on January 13, 2018, in Miami: "Many of you will remember the idiosyncratic insight, wondrous wit and intellectually honest irreverence Gary displayed in fashioning his own drums to beat on and march to throughout his life.

"We write together, as Gary was one of our close-knit group that gathered every year, often in western Pennsylvania. He was the one with camera in hand, documenting our reunions. As one of us put it, his different way of looking at the world made him fit perfectly in our little group. He spiced up our time together with his reports on what was going on in Michigan and regaled us with his views on the pro tennis players of the day.

"Gary was not only brilliant, but he also was a first-rate tennis player, starting at Columbia as a junior varsity player and working his way up to the varsity team as a senior. And it was Gary you would hear long after the sun had set, hitting balls on the tennis court that used to be next to John Jay Hall.

"After college, Gary went to the University of Chicago, where he earned an M.B.A. and met his wife, Barbara. In Michigan, he began in the auto industry, but soon turned to residential real estate, which would become his life's work. From a small financial stake and starting with a few modest houses, Gary impressively built a substantial family business, helping to house more than 100 families along the way. He and Barb had recently moved part-time to North Miami Beach, where he once again began to purchase and renovate undervalued properties, and where, nearly every day, he could be found exploring south Florida's lakes and tributaries in his kayak.

"We join Barbara, their two grown children, Alex and Nick, and Gary's brother **Jeff Becker** in their grief. Our little group is a bit smaller and much, much poorer."

An eventful three months since the last column packed in quite a lot of personal reflection. My mom, Vivienne, passed away in mid-January. One of her last conversations was cheering that Steve Bannon had been dumped by Breitbart, so I can definitively say she didn't lose any inch of mental agility during her 86-and-a-half-year journey. She did, however, tire of her two years of chemo and the last month of always feeling weak and sick, and called a stop to it, spending one last good week with her whole family in late December.

Classy and in control to the end, her life followed the arc of many second-generation ethnic women whose own moms escaped pogroms and who themselves escaped the Depression, went to college, put husbands through professional schools, conceived of women's lib after designing and building much of what America became in the 1950s and '60s, but found themselves neither getting the credit nor enough of the fun. She designed on 7th Avenue, started her own busi-

Not-retired Joe Schifilliti '78 recently completed his master's of jurisprudence in healthcare law at Loyola Law School Chicago.

nesses, gave the best parties, was the star of many nonprofit boards, was a master chef before it was in, yet always ate last and never took a minute for herself before giving whatever was needed to three husbands, three children and five grandchildren. As with many of our moms, after her they threw away that mold; and that's taking not a thing from my amazing Barnard wife. (By the way, despite the lovely picture in the last *CCT*, there is no Marian Nemerson, just the real Marian Chertow BC'77 Ph.D.) See you all soon!

1979

Robert Klapper
8737 Beverly Blvd., Ste 303
Los Angeles, CA 90048
robertklappermd@aol.com

Tom Costigan is a senior developer for Promontory Interfinancial Network in Arlington, Va. PIN is a leading provider of cash reserve deposit management for financial institutions and their clients. Tom lives in Falls Church, Va., with his wife of 36 years, Lucy Buchness. Lucy is a registered nurse and diabetes educator for Kaiser Permanente, and their son, Nolan, is a contract and procurement management specialist with the United States Geological Survey in Reston, Va. Tom also is a soccer referee.

Joe Ferullo writes, "My updates are not about me, but my family: My wife, Sylvia, left her longtime job as a local Los Angeles news anchor two years ago to pursue a master's in public health at Cal State Northridge. She finished her studies in early December, and the next day got a job offer. In mid-January she began work as a public health researcher at UCLA, focusing on health issues among diverse communities in Southern California. A big change from news anchor! My oldest daughter, Daniella, graduated from NYU in 2016 and is an assistant in programming and strategy at FX Networks — she's going to have a front-row seat to the astounding Disney takeover of 20th Century Fox. My youngest, Isabella, is in her freshman year at the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. I've been able to visit her a couple times during business trips back to New York (thank you, Amtrak Acela). I'm still at CBS (11 years now), running programming for the syndicated TV division. An interesting time in the media world — no telling what 2018 will deliver."

Mark Fleischmann shares that his book, *Practical Home Theater: A Guide to Video and Audio Systems*, published last year, has been updated, "as I promised my readers, making it unique in its subject area. The current edition is the 17th. I am also a staff writer for *Sound & Vision* magazine. In the heyday of my freelance career, the '80s and '90s, I wrote for *Rolling Stone*, *Details*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Newsday* and *The Village Voice*, among others. The urban landscape of Morningside Heights always made sense to me and I never strayed far from it. I have lived on the Upper West Side since graduation."

Robert C. Klapper: Here's my Columbia thought for this issue. As we all begin our seventh decade (that's 60 years old, for those of you without a calculator), we can reminisce about what we truly did learn during our four years of captivity on Morningside Heights. Like most things in life, men make plans and God laughs.

Of the many courses that I took to satisfy my major, I realized quickly that my GPA needed to be as high as possible to get into medical school. It was then that I learned from the Course Guide and classmates that you needed an occasional "gut" class in this pre-med odyssey. This led me to take the famous *Don Quixote* class with Professor Karl-Ludwig Selig. I was told ahead of time that you just needed to write a paper comparing the journey of Don Quixote to Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn and their passage down the Mississippi River. EVERYONE on the crew team gets an A from him.

But like most things in life, now that I'm 60, what I appreciate most are the surprises and the unexpected lessons, and although it's been 40 years, not a day goes by that I don't think of some aspect of that book written by Cervantes 500 years ago. It was Professor Selig who pointed out to us the brilliance of Cervantes in having the fool, Sancho Panza, being the character who actually made the most sense.

The reason I bring this up is because in a recent meeting of the minds at my hospital, I could not stop thinking of the words of wisdom uttered to me by the valet parking guy in my office building who said, "Remember, Dr. Klapper, in every deal there's always a sucker. If you look around the room and you don't see who the sucker in the deal is, then, Dr. Klapper, the sucker is YOU!"

It's as though I have my own personal Sancho Panza to guide me. I never would have taken this course but for the mistaken assumption that it was just for a grade and learning something was irrelevant.

Who knew all these years later that it would turn out to be the most powerful course that I would take at Columbia? God bless you, Professor Selig. R.I.P.

Let me know what your game-changer course was. Roar, Lion, Roar!

1980

Michael C. Brown
London Terrace Towers
410 W. 24th St., Apt. 18F
New York, NY 10011
mcbcu80@yahoo.com

For many of us, this year will mark our 60th birthdays. So with that said, in the year of the birth of legends and amazing people, I wish you all a happy 60th birthday!

I received a nice note from **Chris Mesnooh** SIPA'86: Chris has lived uninterruptedly in Paris since 1989. He has developed a sophisticated legal practice of advising American companies investing in France and in the EU more generally. While admitted to the bars of Paris and New York, he nonetheless practices primarily French law, which he says his law school experience at Yale did not prepare him for in any shape or form. Chris is a partner with the British firm Fieldfisher. In his spare time, he is an active commentator for the French media (TV, print and internet) about subjects involving the United States and its legal and political systems. He spent Election Night 2016 going from TV station to TV station, analyzing the results as they unfolded across the country; more recently, Chris has been asked to compare the ways in which issues of sexual harassment are dealt with in the American and French workplaces.

Jonathan A. Dachs, a partner in the Mineola, N.Y., law firm Shayne, Dachs, Sauer & Dachs, was presented on January 24 with the John E. Leach Memorial Award, "in recognition of outstanding service and distinguished contributions to the legal profession," by the New York State Bar Association's Torts, Insurance and Compensation Section at the NYSBA annual meeting in New York City.

Jonathan, a regular featured columnist for the *New York Law Journal* ("Insurance Law") since 1987, recently published a treatise, "New York Uninsured and Underinsured Motorist Law & Practice."

Enjoy your summer and keep those notes coming.

1981

Kevin Fay
8300 Private Ln.
Annadale, VA 22003
kfay0516@gmail.com

On June 16, Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D-N.Y.) nominated Hon. **Paul Feinman** to serve on the New York State Court of Appeals, the state's highest court. On June 21, the New York State Senate unanimously confirmed Paul's appointment, and he took the oath of office that day (the ceremonial investiture was held on October 18) at the Court of Appeals Hall in Albany. Among those in attendance were friends and former colleagues from the appellate court: Hon. Rolando T. Acosta '79, LAW'82; Hon. Rosalyn H. Richter BC'76; and Hon. Barbara R. Kapnick BC'75. Paul and Rolando have known each other since the 6th floor of John Jay — and both have come a long, long way since then!

In other political news, **Randal Quarles** was sworn in as vice chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System on October 13.

My inbox was rather quiet this past quarter, so here's a challenge to the Class of 1981. I'd like to hear from classmates who are retired, semi-retired or thinking seriously about retirement, and what their plans are (or will be) in retirement. Shoot me an email at kfay0516@gmail.com!

1982

Andrew Weisman
81 S. Garfield St.
Denver, CO 80209
columbiacollege82@gmail.com

Gentlemen, I can't tell you how pleased I am by the overwhelming response this quarter! Took me about

three hours to put together the mailing list for our class; my Excel skillset is far too anachronistic to get the Excel mail-merge function to operate properly. Turns out it was well worth the effort, and I now consider myself a "stable genius"!

First to hit reply on the email blast was the highly accomplished good doctor **Thomas Schwann** PS'86. He writes, "I have adopted Ohio as my home since 1994 and officially have become a Buckeye fan and a Buckeye dad.

"I am a busy cardiac surgeon and am the chief of cardiac surgery at the University of Toledo and the vice chair of the Department of Surgery. I hold an endowed professorship in cardiovascular surgery and am the associate dean for graduate medical education as well as the designated institutional official.

"My beautiful wife of 31 years is still putting up with my peculiarities and we have three wonderful children: Lexie (24), Olivia (21) and James (17). Only one is following us into medicine.

"My favorite saying is attributed to Winston Churchill: 'Life can either be accepted or changed. If it is not accepted, it must be changed. If it cannot be changed, then it must be accepted.'"

Thanks for checking in, Tom! Profound thought by Sir Winston; however, my evil, George Carlin-esque twin rejoins that you're screwed if you can't accept change ….

Second to hit reply was my good friend **Wally Wentink.** Wally writes: "I'm enjoying being down here (in Florida), noting that if I spend more than six weeks here in the winter, I'd be getting so lax at basic things I take for granted, like working, I would no longer consider myself a productive member of the general populace. (Which has always been up for debate.)"

Wally, it's not up for debate; I think we all appreciate the fine work you've been doing for the Central Park Conservancy!

Third to hit reply was "double threat" (degrees from both the College and Engineering) **Greg Morea** SEAS'83. Greg has spent the last 35 years at General Dynamics Electric Boat helping keep the nation safe! Greg writes: "Last year was the year of the Great American Eclipse, so all my wife, Barbara, and I needed to do was pick a location to view it, as it was 'viewable' from Lincoln Beach, Ore., to Charleston, S.C. We made a wonderful driving trip out of it, visiting several Revolutionary War battlefields in both North Carolina and South Carolina, as well as our old home state of New Jersey. We viewed the eclipse from Columbia, S.C."

"Our son, Joseph has been married to Alicia for three years, and recently there was an addition to their family. No, we're not grandparents — at least, not exactly. The addition is a very hyperactive, adorable rescue dog named Bunk, who appears to be part yellow Lab, part hound and mostly a ton of energy.

"Rebecca, our daughter, has two snakes: Urdnot Wrex, Battlemaster and Urdnot Grunt. Anyone know Mass Effect? To round out the menagerie, Rebecca still has her wonderful rescue doggie, Bryn (short for Brynhild, a Viking shield maiden/Valkyrie, an appropriate name for the dog of a young woman who wishes she were a Viking)."

In fourth place is the brilliant Dr. **Lou Cornacchia.** Lou writes: "Recently finished 20 years at Brookdale Hospital, where I developed a spine program and the first Think First Head Injury educational program for elementary and high school students (the education program was provided to more than 30 classes in the Brooklyn area and is the first Think First program in New York City).

"I was granted a patent for the first practical hand switch for bipolar forceps electrocautery and recently signed with a company to commercialize this. I am now busy developing a new device to treat low back pain.

"Also, I recently finished a book, *Lumbar Spine: MTBF (Mean Time Between Failure)*, which addresses causes of lumbar spine degeneration. It is to be published this summer or early next fall."

Lou, your body of research is really a wonderful contribution! Most of us are especially happy because we have the old kind of hand switch for bipolar forceps electrocautery!

In the fifth slot is the globe-trotting **Christopher Wells.** Christopher has been living in São Paulo, Brazil, since 1986. He married Fátima, a Brazilian journalist, and unexpectedly developed a career in the environmental field (unexpectedly, because he did poli sci at the College, an M.B.A. at NYU, has never taken a class in chemistry and "don't know much biology," as the '50s song goes). For 16 years, he's been working at Santander, a Spanish-owned bank, as the environmental and social risk manager for the bank's loan operations in Brazil. This means he and his team do checks to ensure that the bank isn't lending to clients who are tearing down the Amazon illegally, employing slave labor, running their factory without an environmental permit or building apartments on contaminated land, among other things. Santander wants to make sure it does things right.

This is a field that is growing among banks in developing countries, where environmental authorities aren't as strong as the EPA is (or used to be). Christopher turned down the opportunity to shake hands with President Barack Obama '83 a few months ago at an event that took place next to the Santander building in São Paulo (as much as he admires Obama, he says he wasn't up to spending hundreds of dollars to get into the jam-packed auditorium). Fátima and Chris have one son, Anthony, who is the news anchor at the NBC channel in Yuma, KYMA.

What a great way to combine economic interests and social responsibility!

In sixth position is accomplished Wall Street executive **Mark Berti.** Mark writes, "After 35 blessed years on Wall Street, executing for clients across global markets, and most recently, handling United States corporate buybacks, I decided to simplify my life and retire."

Congratulations, Mark!

In the seventh spot is the good lawyer **Larry Braverman** LAW'86. Larry is senior director, legal services, mergers and acquisitions integration at Cisco Systems. He writes: "I recently had the privilege of entertaining **Jim Shehan** during his recent business trip to San Francisco at Smugglers' Cove — a popular, kitschy bar boasting pirate-themed decor, exotic cocktails and more than 200 types of rum. He took to it like a fish to water. Rumors are that **Scott Miller** will also be haunting Northern California frequently in connection with his new job as head of a trade association in the energy/electricity industry, and I look forward to re-connecting. I enjoy life in the Bay Area and my work on mergers and acquisitions at Cisco Systems. Facebook (yes, I know it's for old people) enables me to keep in touch with **Gil Bauer** BUS'87 and **Jim Uebbing** SOA'96."

Larry, thanks for checking in!

In the eighth spot is notable legal expert **Nobu Ishizuka:** "After 18 years as a partner at Skadden (Tokyo, Hong Kong and New York), I've left the day-to-day practice of law and have been appointed as executive director of the Center for Japanese Legal Studies at the Law School. Looking forward to getting back to Morningside Heights and new challenges ahead."

Congratulations, Nobu!

In the ninth position is **Scott Simpson** SOA'85. Scott's been up to some fascinating stuff; he spent three weeks cruising around in the high Arctic aboard the *Svalbard,* thanks to the prestigious Arctic Circle program, as its resident screenwriter!

Thanks for checking in, Scott!

Tenth overall is the esteemed **Rick Steinberg.** Rick is of counsel to the law firm Price Meese, Shulman & D'Arminio in Woodcliff Lake, N.J., where he practices bankruptcy law, transportation and maritime law, and commercial litigation. Rick is the chairman of the Committee on Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights at the Transportation Lawyers Association and is a proctor in admiralty of the Maritime Law Association of the United States. He is admitted to the New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania bars.

Thanks for checking in!

In the 11th spot is financial oracle **Ben Pace,** writing in for first time in 35 years! Ben shares: "After 10 years as CIO for Deutsche Bank Private Wealth Management, I joined a number of my former colleagues in the same role at HPM Partners. Moving away from the large global bank to a registered investment adviser has been a sometimes-scary, yet exhilarating, experience. Being a partner with equity interest in an entity where we have a true bottom line impact has elicited a change in perspective and has reenergized me in the second half of my career.

"I also broke down this past summer and joined the Columbia Club, which is housed at the Penn Club. It's a shame that alumni indifference caused our clubhouse to close years ago, but I have been soaking in the experience at the Penn Club. Clients

and prospects have enjoyed the food and ambience. It has also been a great venue for family, especially before a show. I plan to make greater use of the lectures both clubs arrange."

Great idea to join the Columbia Club! It's incredibly useful for out-of-towners like me to have a nice office/home away from home.

Ben, you're not off the hook for another 35 years!

Number 12 was Dr. **Deepak Awasthi.** Deepak writes: "My world travels continue. In 2017 I achieved another one of my travel goals: 'Visit All of Europe.' In May 2017, Belarus completed my list and it was an adventure when I was stopped by customs after they felt that my anti-diarrhea medication was a controlled substance (even though it was in a bottle with my name and a prescriber's name), so I had to call my doctor colleague in the United States (where it was 3 a.m.) to have him send an image of a prescription with my name. Thankfully he was awake!"

Well, in Customs' defense, that medicine is designed to provide some measure of control.

Congratulations on knocking that continent off the list!

Also checking in just to say hello this period were legal beagle **Mark Morris** from Salt Lake City, an attorney with the firm of Snell & Wilmer, and loyal Columbian Dr. **Sal Volpe.**

Thanks, guys!

Last, but (as you'll discover) certainly not least, the recently-awarded-a-John-Jay-Award **Ron Simons** BUS'89! What fantastic news! Ron shared the following: "I'm still acting and producing (I won my fourth Tony award last season for producing *Jitney*!). I'm still helming SimonSays Entertainment. I have two kids in college and two in high school, and the big news is that I was honored with a John Jay Award in March! If you have Netflix you can see my first recurring role in *The Defenders*."

I was planning to attend the John Jay Awards Dinner again this year. Have to! Take that, Class of '83: You have the President, but we've got four Tony Awards!

I must say I'm overwhelmed by the generosity of all our contributors. We have a great class; let's keep it going! Please note we have a new email address: columbiacollege82@gmail.com. Send your news there!

1983

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Roy Pomerantz
Babyking/Petking
182-20 Liberty Ave.
Jamaica, NY 11412
bkroy@msn.com

The Columbia College Alumni Association's January Board of Directors meeting was held at the impressive Lenfest Center for the Arts on West 129th Street. It is the second building to open on the University's Manhattanville campus. According to Columbia's website, "The Lenfest Center for the Arts will serve as a major focal point for engagement in the rich cultural life of Columbia, Harlem and New York City at large."

My sons, David and Ricky, and I attended Columbia basketball's home win against Cornell, 88–62, and the win against Sarah Lawrence. I was delighted to see Brian Krisberg '81 and meet his son, who will attend Columbia in the fall. I also spent time with Jim Weinstein '84, Michael Schmidtberger '82, Ken Howitt '76 and basketball great and Ivy League Digital Network commentator Isaac Cohen '16.

David Hershey-Webb: "CC'83 friends of **Mark Robin,** who died in December of ALS, would like to have a 'poetry slam' in honor of Mark. We are also looking into funding a scholarship."

The following excerpt is from Mark's obituary in the *Bozeman Daily Chronicle*: "Mark Robin arrived in Big Sky, Mont., in 1993 with his wife Jackie, their dog Niner, a cat and baby Andrew. He was a native New Yorker who had never done a mountain sport in his life, who rocked nipple rings and loved his black leather pants. He was a poet and a Mets fan; a man who would spend the next three decades raising his family, building a business which became an anchor of community in the growing ski town, and pursuing his many and varied passions. Mark didn't know how to be fake or false. He had only one way of being — and that was real. He wore his emotions on his sleeve: He teared up at the sight of an old friend, a touching story, and every graduation and wedding. […]

"Mark handled his illness with the same grace, kindness, generosity and sense of humor with which he had lived his life. He brought people together. He attended football games, graduations, weddings and community events even when he had lost the ability to walk, move and talk, the community he had created followed him, always delighted by his beautiful and warm smile, which said everything. He was compelled to write, and re-started his blog, markymooseinbigsky.blogspot.com as a way of telling the very honest story of his struggle with ALS. In the spring the family hosted a community wide event, Soul Shine, which raised over $20,000 for causes supporting living a full life with ALS as well as those working on a cure. […]

"He graduated from Columbia University in 1983 with a degree in economics and a minor in creative writing. William Carlos Williams was his favorite poet because, like Mark, he was the kind of poet who was about observing, Williams lived the life of a doctor but was a poet. Mark's poems also chronicled everyday life; Mark didn't like flowery or overly poetic language. He met his life partner, Jackie Roberts, in New York City in 1986, the year the Mets won the World Series. Their first date lasted three days; they married in 1990 at his family's home in upstate New York. Mark was fortunate to be attended in his illness by his incredibly devoted, organized and tireless wife Jackie, who made sure his life was full even as his disease took everything but his brilliant mind. His sons Andrew, Micah and Howie were by his side throughout his illness, coming home from college and jobs to care for him. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to be made in Mark's name to any non-profit organization of Big Sky, Team Gleason and Temple Beth Shalom of Bozeman."

At the reunion dinner on Saturday, June 2, we plan to have a memorial service to honor deceased classmates. We also plan to read some of Mark's poems. Classmates being honored are **Daniel Barr, Charles P. Barratt-Brown, Timothy G. Collier, Henry Davison Jr., Jonathan Asher Goldman, Stephen Thomas Heyman, Jordan R. Kassof, Christian Kirby, Andrew Edward E. Krapf, Robert Eric Kreuter, James Lupo, Jose Luis Meraz, Paul Charles Metz, Kevin Jay Moenter, Thomas Peter Norton, Michael Francis O'Grady, John David Potter, James William Privett, Lawrence A. Richette II, Mark Reid Robin, Garry Saget, Richard Dong-Woo Shin, Peter Dunsmore Stevens, Mark E. Wasik, Joseph Thomas Widowfield** and **James Francis Willey.**

Steven Greenfield: "Another year of testing my partner Melissa's patience on New Year's Eve, as I struggle to wrap things up, a year behind schedule. But this year, for the first time in three years, I managed to review all the pop/rock records I had accumulated for 2016, so that is something of an accomplishment, even if I am still forgoing all the jazz, classical and others. My thanks once again to **Steve Holtje** and to **Luis Rueda** for their suggestions about what was worth paying attention to in 2016, and to Melissa for her unflagging support throughout the time it took to get this survey finished. Bat for Lashes won top honors this year by an eyelash over Radiohead for *The Bride*, a brave and richly cathartic concept album from Britain's Natasha Khan. My list of the top 10 (of the pops) for the year follows: 1. Bat for Lashes, *The Bride*; 2. Radiohead, *A Moon Shaped Pool*; 3. Matmos, *Ultimate Care II*; 4. Buck Curran, *Immortal Light*; 5. Tim Hecker, *Love Streams*; 6. Animal Collective, *Painting With*; 7. Sleigh Bells, *Jessica Rabbit*; 8. SPC ECO, *Anomalies*; 9. The Dandy Warhols, *Distortland*; 10. Opeth, *Sorceress*."

Wayne Allyn Root shared this press release: "USA Radio Network announces today the dramatic growth of Wayne Allyn Root's national radio show. Hosted by Wayne Allyn Root, the fiery, dynamic, high-energy, conservative warrior, capitalist evangelist and nonstop champion and defender of Donald Trump. Root is a national media personality, best-selling conservative author and newspaper columnist, TV host and producer, and former 2008 Libertarian VP nominee. Root's daily radio show, *WAR Now: The Wayne Allyn Root Show*, airs from 6–9 P.M. EST/3–6 P.M. PST around the country. *WAR Now* has added, or is the process of adding stations in Dallas, Minneapolis and Chicago. Root is also now

heard on WJJF FM in Connecticut and Long Island, N.Y., and multiple stations around San Antonio, Texas. The 8 P.M. EST hour of *WAR Now* is broadcast as a national television show by Newsmax TV. With the addition of 15 million homes on Dish TV, *WAR Now* now reaches about 50 million U.S. households on Newsmax TV — including distribution by DirecTV, Dish TV and many cable carriers, such as Verizon's Fios and AT&T U-verse.

"Root's dramatic radio rise began in early 2016 with the debut of his one-hour local radio show on KBET in Las Vegas. Root quickly moved to 3–6 P.M. afternoon drive time."

Don Steinberg: "I thought you or some of our classmates might get a kick out of a *New Yorker* story I did about one of our freshman Humanities teachers and Carrie Fisher."

An excerpt: "In 1977, Mark Notturno, a second-year graduate student in philosophy at Columbia, got a call from his department head. A young actress living on the Upper West Side had contacted the school, seeking a private philosophy coach. It was Carrie Fisher, and just weeks before *Star Wars* premiered. Through that year, as Fisher became a superstar, Notturno became her personal philosopher. He made house calls, for 25 dollars a session, via a side door of the El Dorado building on Central Park West, where Fisher had an apartment. […]

"Notturno flaunted his star pupil just a little. 'My friend Ted Talbot in the philosophy department was a huge *Star Wars* fan,' he recalled. 'Carrie and I went to his apartment on 89th Street, and when he came to the door, Carrie said, 'Help me, Obi-Wan Kenobi, you're my only hope.' The philosophy sessions didn't last beyond 1977. Notturno went on to write his Ph.D. dissertation: 'Objectivity, Rationality and the Third Realm: Justification and the Grounds of Psychologism.' Fisher became involved with the songwriter Paul Simon. Some might consider Simon, by virtue of his thoughtful lyrics, to be a sort of modern philosopher. 'I do think,' Notturno mused, 'maybe that was more the sort of thing Carrie had in mind."

Kevin Chapman: "For the next year I will chair the Employment & Labor Law Committee of the Association of Corporate Counsel. The committee has about 7,000 members around the globe, all of whom are in-house counsel. My induction took place at the ACC's Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. I rocked the Columbia suspenders, necktie and cufflinks delivering my address to the committee's business meeting."

Jon Ross: "Thanks to your support, MicroAid was able to start the new year with another home repair in Bhaktapur, Nepal. During the 2015 earthquake, the Nakarmi family's roof caved in and some walls collapsed, making the entire house unsafe — 650,000 homes were destroyed or severely damaged in the earthquake. And, even three years later, not very many have been rebuilt or repaired, and most of the aid has been centered in the mountain villages. MicroAid is focusing on families in the ancient city of Bhaktapur in the urban Kathmandu Valley. With our in-country project manager, Nabina Duwal, this will be the fourth family that MicroAid has helped by building safe, comfortable and permanent housing — our strategy to help them return to self-sufficiency. MicroAid is also prepping projects for flood survivors in Paraguay and hurricane survivors in the Caribbean. We really are making a life-changing difference for families wiped out by disasters — directly, efficiently and completely."

I look forward to seeing you at reunion, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2.

1984

Dennis Klainberg
Berklay Cargo Worldwide
14 Bond St., Ste 233
Great Neck, NY 11021
dennis@berklay.com

An announcement from **Evan Nisonson:** "My daughter, Emma Nisonson '22, will be a freshman at the College this fall. She has an early focus on political science/international affairs."

Hey now… (not Hank but) **Evan Kingsley:** "My daughter Lizzy is having a junior year at Yale that makes me remember mine at Columbia wistfully: A year when you hit your academic groove; you're voraciously interested in anything and everything that comes your way; and have so many potent ideas in your head that you make wondrous connections across disciplines and across eras that begin to suggest you've really gotten something out of your amazing liberal arts education. May she remember it as fondly as I do. Meanwhile, older daughter Ava BC'17 landed her dream job at Audi in United States corporate strategy. She's a car girl and she got that from me. Wife Dara BC'83 still loves running an honors program at Hunter College and teaching eager freshmen how to love the arts in NYC. My firm, Plan A Advisors, does management consulting for nonprofits (strategic planning, mergers, governance, campaigns) including some marquee NYC clients, and that keeps me making connections across disciplines of a different sort. Loving it still."

With a heavy heart, I report the death of **Anthony Kaye** GSAS'99. In the words of his beloved wife, Melissa, "Tony died May 14, 2017, after a yearlong battle with cancer. We (with our two daughters, now age 7 and 16) came down to Chapel Hill from State College, Pa. — where Tony was a history professor at Penn State — for a fellowship at the National Humanities Center in 2015/16 to work on his book about Nat Turner. Following the fellowship he got a job as the VP of scholarly programs at the center. He was diagnosed in 2016 shortly after he took that job and passed away a year later."

Anthony earned a Ph.D. from Columbia in 1999 and was a member of the history department at Penn State 2002–16. An expert in the fields of African-American and Civil War history, he published widely on Atlantic slavery, the African diaspora and emancipation, and was associate editor of *The Journal of the Civil War Era*. When it appeared in 2007, his book *Joining Places: Slave Neighborhoods in the Old South* was celebrated as a pioneering and influential study of the social geography of slavery that challenged conventional ideas about community and social relationships among enslaved people.

Jonathan Duitch kvells: "Since last reporting, my daughter, Merav, gave birth to my first grandchild, a beautiful girl named Libi Dror. Merav accomplished this feat in the middle of her first year in medical school at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beer Sheva. I am not prejudiced in the least, but I believe Libi is the most wonderful grandchild that ever was. Also I am thrilled that my son, Nadiv, married the love of his life, Vicky, in a ceremony seven days prior to the Pessach festival. My wife, Laurie, and I celebrated 30 years of marriage last year and we have much to be thankful for!"

Xie, xie, **David Branner:** "It is three years since my last letter. I'm in tech, my second career — currently at a quant hedge fund. Since 2008, when I abandoned tenure at the University of Maryland, I've followed the Charles Ives Model for creative work: Earn a decent living in Corporatia so you don't have to compromise your craft. It's harder than I'd hoped, but I've now found viable parameters. (The massive psychological collapse Ives himself suffered in mid-life must have been a result of the model's stresses, but never mind.) In 2015 I presented on Classical Chinese grammar at the Strange Loop computer programming conference, and in 2017 I read two other papers at academic conferences. Computer science, which I took up after leaving the academy, has much influenced my approach to Chinese grammar — I wouldn't have learned all this if I'd stayed in academia. I'm also actively translating Classical Chinese texts — good feed for grammar studies. And I am nearing the end of a collaborative project to document the vast vocabulary connected with 'face' (as in 'to save face') in Mandarin.

"For the paycheck I do mostly technical writing — documenting code for use by company quants, editing technical papers for publication and cleaning up prose in open-source projects. It's a good choice for the corporate half of the Ives model; less draining than coding, it leaves me the energy for creative pursuits.

Dr. Deepak Awasthi '82 achieved one of his travel goals — "Visit All of Europe" — with his May 2017 trip to Belarus.

"My wife has taken up Chinese brush-calligraphy, four decades after evading it as a teenager in Taiwan, so that for the first time in our life together we share a substantial intellectual interest — I have academic expertise on the Chinese script, and she is facing the same topics through the art form. This marriage remains the happiest part of my life, and my scholarly work is a close second to it. My mother is in decline but lives independently in the apartment next to ours. She reads most of *The New York Times* every day."

Howie Snyder, the Coca-Cola Kid, returns! "We will relocate to the United States after 25 years abroad. I have two boys, Noah (2 and a half), and Alisha (4). I have been working for Coca-Cola in China for 10 years, but will head back to the States and look at opportunities in bilingual education."

Ladies and gents, my Carman suitemate **Ronald Thompson:** "I can't believe I'll be an empty-nester this year. I couldn't get my son, Josh, to go for Columbia — if only I could have arranged for him to talk with Coach Brett Boretti! He's decided to take his fastball to Seattle University next year, where he will pitch and study digital design. At least he will get a Carman-like experience in his first year, except the freshman dorms there have shared bathrooms for the floor. I'm excited, though. I still remember showing up that first day, meeting roommates, having one of them kicked out (from Dennis: leading to me getting that spot after four months commuting!), then having the odd couple next door (from Dennis: that was me, and a football player named John Ricisak, from Florida, who decided to transfer after that year)! Whatever happened to John?"

David Godfried and his wife, Diana, moved back into NYC three years ago. David attended a Café Columbia event in SoHo on January 25, "How Trump, Le Pen and Brexit Happened." Reminiscent of his undergraduate years he showed up a bit late, with only 10 minutes left in the lecture. The only remaining seat was right next to Roger Lehecka '67, GSAS'74 (our illustrious dean of students). This brought back memories of freshman year when, because of crew practice, David had missed one too many lab sections in his science requirement, and was summoned to Dean Lehecka's office to discuss his subpar attendance.

David and Diana's son, Robert '18, is a sociology major, looking forward to graduating this May. He is currently taking Dean Lehecka's seminar class, "Equity in Higher Education." David and Diana's daughter, Katharine, is a high school senior and has decided to follow in her mother's undergraduate footsteps and will attend Princeton in the fall. The Godfrieds have spent many a vacation visiting National Parks, and spent a week during the New Year's break in Yellowstone. David and Diana celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary last summer hiking in Shenandoah National Park.

David is a pediatric orthopedist at NYU Langone Orthopedic Hospital, and also is an associate professor and director of the Center for Children. He started in the NYU Stern School of Business executive M.B.A. program in January, and he is determined to improve on his undergraduate attendance record.

From a press release about **William D. Lubell,** who "has been actively advancing the fields of medicinal chemistry and peptide science through the development of seminal methods to create and employ peptide and peptidomimetic prototypes that target and modulate biologically relevant receptors for drug discovery. Recipient of a B.A. from Columbia College in 1984 and Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley in 1989, where he studied under the supervision of Henry Rapoport, Lubell was a Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Fellow from 1990–1991 in the laboratory of Ryoji Noyori at Nagoya University, Japan, before joining the Department of Chemistry at the Université de Montréal in 1991. Co-author of more than 250 scientific publications, associate editor of *Organic Letters* since 2005, editorial board member of journals in peptide science and drug design, and innovator of intellectual property to launch the Canadian startup companies Mperia Therapeutics and Rytvel Biotech, his honors include the Boehringer Ingelheim Young Investigator Award, the DuPont Canada Educational Aid Grant, the Danish National Bank Award, the Merck Therapeutic Research Award and in 2013 the Bernard Belleau Award for achievements in medicinal chemistry. Originator of Molecules of Life, Lubell explores experiential education techniques to teach elementary school students about molecules."

Kudos and good luck on the nuptials of **Neel Lane** and his bride, Jennifer. In attendance were **El Gray** and **Mike Goldman.**

1985

Jon White
16 South Ct.
Port Washington, NY 11050
jw@whitecoffee.com

Well, you all came through like I knew you would — thank you for heeding my requests and sending your updates. Please continue to keep all of us informed.

Barry Ableman recently heard from **David Ordan,** who appeared on local Milwaukee news speaking about "Ike Bites," a doggy treat made by people with disabilities. Go online to read more: bit.ly/2EOfEsa. Dave is the development director of the Eisenhower Center, a nonprofit that provides services to approximately 100 people with disabilities. They have been hired by G.O.A.T. Pet Products to be the exclusive producer of pet treats. G.O.A.T. Pet Products landed a deal on Shark Tank in January 2018. Dave lives in Milwaukee with his wife and six children.

Dr. **Samuel Denmeade** PS'89, a professor of oncology and director of the genitourinary oncology program at Johns Hopkins, received a $5 million Transformative Impact Grant from the Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program to evaluate the use of high-dose testosterone as therapy for advanced prostate cancer.

Amr Aly SEAS'85, a partner at Mayer Brown, last year represented Rocco B. Commisso SEAS'71, BUS'75 in acquiring a majority ownership interest in the iconic New York Cosmos professional soccer club. The club was facing near-certain extinction when Commisso stepped in and saved it. The representation was especially gratifying for Amr because he played for the Cosmos in 1985, right after he graduated from Columbia. On a related note, Amr was recently inducted into the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame for the second time, this time as an individual. He was previously inducted with the '83 men's soccer team, which won the Ivy League title that year and was undefeated going into the NCAA Division 1 Final, where the team lost in triple overtime to soccer powerhouse Indiana.

After graduation **Jim Davidson** headed to Houston for an M.B.A. and lived there for 20 years. He writes, "In 2005, my elderly parents needed help, and I returned to my hometown to live near them and be of service. My dad passed in 2010 and my mom in 2014. Last year I moved to Dayton, Ohio, where I live near my sister, niece and nephew. I recently was asked to take the role of CTO for a new company, Travellers Cash, which is providing transaction processing services to the travel and resort industry. Since 1998 I have gained considerable expertise with digital currencies. I am now adviser to several cryptocurrency projects and editor of a number of white papers on the topic. In my spare time I enjoy reading, walking and helping the poor."

Philip Ivory lives in Tucson and teaches creative writing at Writers Studio. His fiction has appeared in *Rosette Maleficarum, Edify Fiction, The Airgonaut, Literally Stories, Devolution Z, Bewildering Stories* and elsewhere. In 2017, he was nominated for the Pushcart Prize. He blogs about writing at writeyourselfsane.com.

Here's an update from **Greg Jarrin:** "Hello to the Class of 1985. Thirty-three years. I cannot believe it. We have been in Winslow, Ariz., for 12 years now. It is a railroad town that grew because it is on the Little Colorado River. The water from the river was used for the steam engines in the late 1890s. Winslow is best known for its mention in the Eagles song 'Take It Easy.' We are 15 miles south of the Navajo Reservation and 52 miles east of Flagstaff.

"My wife, Vanessa, and I both work at the Winslow Indian Health Care Center. She is a commissioned corps officer and a nurse practitioner. I recently completed my 23rd year of being a general surgeon, 19 of which have been spent caring for the Navajo and Hopi people. We have three children in college and the youngest, Chloe, is a sophomore at Winslow H.S. The oldest, Julian, is at Arizona State, studying theater. Luke, the next oldest, is at Humboldt State in Arcata, Calif., becoming a wildlife

conservationist. Felicia is a freshman at Santa Clara, enjoying being away from home and exploring political science and journalism as possible career choices.

"Last fall, after the multiple summer hurricanes, Vanessa was deployed to work in Georgia. She was assigned the job of triaging patients being flown in from the Virgin Islands to an Air Force base in Atlanta. Many ill people needed a higher level of care than what could be provided in the Caribbean after the storms. She worked tirelessly for two weeks straight.

"I was in Haiti at this time working at the Hôpital Albert Schweitzer (HAS) in Deschapelles, Haiti. Vanessa and I were supposed to go to Haiti together, but her services were needed elsewhere. I worked with three Haitian general surgeons. I have been there prior as short-term relief for the HAS full-time surgeons. This time, no one took any time off, but it was great to work with the two younger surgeons whom I had not met previously. I performed 28 surgeries and gave a lecture/demonstration on the use of ultrasound for trauma. I enjoyed my time in Deschapelles and hope to return in October.

"We feel grateful to have four healthy children pursuing their dreams while helping to provide quality medical care for our Native American patients. I cannot believe that we are already turning the page and thinking about where we will be retiring. Time does fly. Just like pigs."

Michael Cho writes, "Greetings from the Resistance Base Camp (aka Berkeley, Calif.). I hope everyone's 55th b-day celebrations are going well. By way of an update, I am back on instant noodles and Hot Pockets as I try to build another startup while I still have some good brain cells left. Apparently, all the cool kids are working on artificial intelligence so I have jumped into the mosh pit and am building an AI insurance agent for the Medicare industry. While I don't know how this will turn out, I am feeling feisty transferring my accumulated health care knowledge into IBM's Watson and Alexa. I am hoping that the ChoBot will have a better sense of humor than I.

"Changing topics, I urge all '85ers to help interview Columbia College and Columbia Engineering applicants. We have another record number of applicants, and I think you will really enjoy meeting these amazing people and realize how lucky we were to get into Columbia when we did!" [Editor's note: Learn more: college.columbia.edu/alumni/volunteer/alumni-interviewing.]

Finally, **John Phelan** and I caught up for dinner up in Harlem. For those who have not been back to the neighborhood since graduation, you would not believe the level of gentrification that has occurred. John is enrolled in the Mailman School of Public Health.

By the time you read this, it will be only 27 months until reunion …

1986

Everett Weinberger
50 W. 70th St., Apt. 3B
New York, NY 10023
everett6@gmail.com

After a colder-than-normal January in NYC, I fantasized about leaving this concrete jungle and moving to the slow pace, aqua-colored waters and lush flora of a Caribbean island — just like **John Kirkland** did three years ago when he moved to St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands. He and his family made it through two Category 5+ hurricanes unscathed and they enjoy winter daytime temps in the mid-80s. John manages a mutual fund from the island, where he lives with his wife, Ann; son, Hunter (8); and daughter, Sienna (6).

Says John, "We moved here in December 2014 to take advantage of the Economic Development Commission Tax Incentive Program for the U.S. Virgin Islands, which provides a 90 percent reduction in corporate and personal income tax. In California we paid a total tax rate of 52.9 percent. Here we pay 3.96 percent. We have AT&T cell service, Dish TV and high-speed fiber optic broadband internet service. My office is pretty much like Class A office space in Manhattan, except the temperature of the water I can see out my window is 80 degrees year-round. It's basically like living in a small town (there are 50,000 people on St. Thomas), but you can't get in the car and drive an hour to get to the city. You need to get on a plane and fly two and a half hours to Miami or five hours to New York. But you don't really need to see *Aladdin* or the *Gazillion Bubble Show* more than a couple of times a year, so it works out fine."

Steven Klotz is back from exploring the underwater worlds of Indonesia and Bali. He's headed in April to dive with manta rays and whales in Revillagigedo and Socorro with his daughter Alyxandra. He's excited about his son's upcoming high school graduation and early acceptance to the University of Richmond, where his son is hoping to make their NCAA D1 lacrosse squad as a long pole defenseman. Steven celebrated 25 years of marriage to Shari and lives in Pennsylvania, where he's a psychiatrist and writes about dive medicine and pharmacological challenges under pressure while diving.

James Carr: "Daughter Nina is very happy in her second semester at the University of Vermont. She is running cross country and track, having made the team as a walk-on following a summer of training runs and backpacking across Europe. Hard work paid off! My wife, Kim Drain BC'88, has a new book out, *Sock* (by Kim Adrian, her pen name); it's part of the Object Lessons series. I've been appointed to the Brookline Planning Board, which has meant many evening meetings. Lots of interesting issues from legal marijuana to affordable housing to climate change, as well as the usual neighborhood battles over driveways and trees. I coach our 11-year-old son's soccer and futsal teams (and play, too). Lastly, I'm having a fun time working on a residential project on Martha's Vineyard with Doug Jones '89, whose design firm in New York (Kureck|Jones) does beautiful work."

Mark Golder: "I'm in my 24th year as VP at BNY Mellon's Corporate Trust Department here in Los Angeles. My 12-year old, Noah, keeps me busy with sports and scouting. And he recently learned how to play 'Stairway to Heaven' on guitar — pretty cool. Maybe Columbia fight song is next? A big shout out to football team — awesome year! Let's hear from some mid-'80s *Spectator* alums, back when 'all the news that fits we print.'"

Adam Cohen is proud to join the ranks of alumni parents: His son, Josiah '21, began CC last fall. Adam is also proud to announce the publication of *Signs & Wonders: 100 Haggada Masterpieces*. He writes, "With more than 200 full-color pictures and an accessible text that offers an overview to the rich history of the illustrated haggada from the Middle Ages to the present, the book is a great addition to the Passover Seder or a fine stocking stuffer for any occasion!"

1987

Sarah A. Kass
PO Box 300808
Brooklyn, NY 11230
SarahAnn29uk@gmail.com

Glad to be back with you all following the passing of my mother, Miryom Kass GS/JTS'63, this past fall. Of course, there are no words — much sorrow but beautiful opportunities to remember all that she gave to me; my father, Alvin Kass '57; and my brothers, Lewis and Danny '95. I additionally want to note the passing of Saul Cohen '57, who was responsible for recruiting me to the Columbia College Alumni Association Board of Directors in 1992, and 26 years later, you are all helping me to stay involved through this wonderful role of class correspondent. I am forever grateful for the privilege of both of these lives.

I am also grateful for the privilege of hearing from **Derrick Acker,** who sent in the following update, motivated by our 30th reunion stories: "After graduating from my beloved Columbia, I received a law degree from St. John's University School of Law in 1990 and practiced law in NYC 1990–95. I enjoyed litigating but felt unfulfilled and decided to make a big life change. I really wanted to give something back to our country, so I became an FBI special agent. I've been an FBI special agent in New York for 22 years. I worked Organized Crime and, for the past 15 years, in Violent Gangs. It's been truly incredible.

"I married **Mike Telesca**'s sister Catherine and we have two beautiful boys, ages 12 and 14. I stay in touch with Mike, John Stamatis '88, Glenn Meyers '84, Mario Tariche '89, Robert Chasanoff '85 and some other Columbia alums.

"Anyway, along the way, life has been kind and conversely dealt me some huge body blows. Indeed, the following is something that is on my mind each and every day. I write it to remember all those souls …

"On 9-11, I found myself partially buried after the South Tower of the World Trade Center so violently imploded. I lay there not knowing what had just happened. Laying in black soot and burning embers on Church Street, struggling to breathe and unable to see anything, I really wondered what life was all about. See, as an FBI agent, I responded to Ground Zero confident, almost cocky, that I could make a difference and help save every soul in those ill-fated buildings. I laid on that hot, soot-filled street and recalled, only a few moments before, standing at the base of the North Tower, watching in horror as men and women leaped to their deaths from above the jet line. I thought, 'What sort of hell were they facing inside that building to make such a leap of faith out of those windows so high above?' I laid there and lost most, if not all, the faith I had in humanity. I laid there devastated, trying to come to grips with the ugly fact that I was unable to save more people. I think about all those poor souls, who slipped between my fingers, each and every day. It's a movie that plays in my head and I can't ever turn it off.

"I was a bit broken and lost after 9-11. However, two things changed my life to restore that lost faith in humanity: My beautiful, wonderful wife and endurance racing. I started slowly by running marathons and I found a bit of solace on those long runs, but I craved more. I grew up playing football, baseball and basketball. Indeed, I played four years of baseball at Columbia. However, I finally found my true passion when I toed the start line at my first triathlon. I loved it. The longer and the harder the race, the more I healed. I did many sprints, many Olympic distance races, many half Ironmans, five Ironmans and the Survival of the Shawangunks, American Zofingen Long Course. The more unique and grassrootsy the race, the more I loved it. True healing came on those long training runs, long training rides and those long, glorious open-water swims. I rediscovered hope and love and faith and trust in humanity on those dusty roads, and in that murky fresh and salty water. Even more of a factor was my wife. She was patient and listened as I struggled. She was extraordinary, and still is.

"Man, I miss those heady days at Columbia, the best years of my life."

Rob Wolf, my esteemed predecessor at this column, wrote to say that a film he directed, *What Does Reintegration Mean to You?* (youtu.be/uWhcnz68heM), was selected as an official selection of the 42nd Annual American Indian Film Festival last fall in San Francisco.

Hearty congrats from all of us, Rob!

Lee Ilan, who did such amazing work for our class for the Columbia College Fund, sent this update: "I had the pleasure of visiting with my first-year roommate **Laura Ting** and her husband, **Kevin McGrattan SEAS'87,** on our road trip to Lake Murray, S.C., to watch the total eclipse in August. We went with them to the local agricultural fair where we learned that a) Texas longhorn cattle are also raised in Maine, b) duck races are pretty funny and c) there are some extraordinarily fancy-looking chickens out there. The eclipse itself was amazing — emotional, beautiful, fleeting, extraordinary. And totally worth the 19-hour, all-night drive home. Now that we know what to look for, we're ready for the next one in April 2024!

"In October, I was thrilled to celebrate my daughter Mavis' sixth birthday (pin the necklace on Moana!); my 10th wedding anniversary with my inamorato, Peter Engel (concerts by The Bobs and Uncle Bonsai!); and my 52nd birthday (yes, **Kyra Barry,** I have checked colonoscopy off my bucket list!). I've also signed up to co-chair Mavis' school's international/diversity committee, so I think a lot about the beautiful and the ugly things we are facing in the world today and am grateful for the communities I'm a part of. One of these is the generous, thoughtful, funny, genuine members of the Class of '87. Keep it up, friends!"

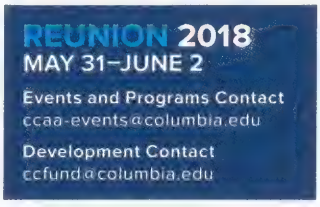
Before flying off to Greenland and Iceland, my beloved Carman 5-mate, **Divya Singh,** wrote, "I have had dinner a couple of times with Cindy Lash Ramos '86 (started with CC'87) and her husband, David Ramos '85, while I have done *locum tenens* work in Dover, Del. On my last trip, John Seufert '85 also came up from Baltimore to visit. We hung out by the pool, ate pizza and debated the merits of the various Columbia circa 1985 drinking establishments."

Annemarie Coffman Lellouch writes, "My eldest passed the French baccalaureate exams in July and then we went on a big family holiday to Taiwan and Japan. It was a memorable trip for all. This fall, my son started medical school here in Marseille, we have undertaken a major renovation of our apartment (it got started ahead of schedule, giving us only 10 days to pack, move out or toss 17 years of clutter!) and I have completed the last administrative steps required to finally become a French citizen (passport due next spring). Never a dull moment … not sure how all this happened at the same time."

A final note, from **Rima Jolivet** (née Rachel Repetto): "I have lost touch and would love to catch up with Gus and Dawn. If they read this, please email me at rima.jolivet@usa.net."

Hope you all get to reconnect!

1988



Eric Fusfield
1945 South George Mason Dr.
Arlington, VA 22204
eric@fusfield.com

Don't forget that our 30th reunion will be here soon, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2!

My children (ages 4 and 6) look forward to receiving books in the mail each month from PJ Library, a service that distributes Jewish-themed books for young readers. I was pleased to see that our most recent installment was *The Candlewick,* by **Jennifer Rosner.** Jennifer, who also has written a memoir about raising two daughters with hearing impairments, has woven into her new children's book themes such as friendship, kindness, tradition and dealing with deafness. According to her author's note, "This story is based on the innovation of my daughter, Sophia. Unable to hear the doorbell when upstairs in her room, Sophia trails a string from her bedroom window to the front door. When someone tugs on the string, Sophia's window blinds move up and down. She knows visitors have arrived and she heads downstairs to let them in."

Congratulations to *PBS NewsHour* Executive Producer **Sara Just,** the eighth member of our class to receive one of the College's coveted John Jay Awards. The honor recognizes alumni for distinguished professional achievement. Kudos to **Leslie Gittess Brodsky, Alexandra Wallace Creed** and **Doug Wolf** for serving on the Selection Committee.

It was good to hear from **Hal Shapiro** LAW'91, who, like me, works in Washington, D.C. Hal, a former White House international economic affairs adviser, is a partner at Akin Gump, where he chairs the firm's regulatory practice steering committee. He is also an adjunct professor at American University's Washington College of Law.

Like most of us, I was sorry to hear of the passing of longtime College employee Peter V. Johnson. Dean Johnson came to my high school in Northern Virginia for a Columbia orientation session, making him the first representative of the College I met. After that, I remember chasing after him each semester to put his "PVJ" on my course selection form. His affable, distinguished demeanor inspired both kinship and respect. He is a fixture in our memories of college and will be missed by many in our class. [Editor's note: See "Around the Quads," Winter 2017–18.]

1989

Emily Miles Terry
45 Clarence St.
Brookline, MA 02446
emilymilesterry@me.com

Though Facebook can be a mixed bag, it offers an easy way to reconnect with a friend. I reached out to **Mary Donnelly,** who shared this about her inspiring professional life in film and publishing: "It's hard to summarize everything I've been up to these past years, so please forgive the long-windedness. I've lived in Brooklyn since graduation. My long-time partner, Peter Rostovsky (an artist and art professor), and I recently celebrated 17 years together (geez, how time flies)."

Mary has worked for almost 30 years in either film/video production or in some sort of publishing/marketing editorial capacity. She currently is a project manager/video producer for

a small communications firm, Generation, in Brooklyn, which works mostly in the education sector.

She adds, "In 2003 I got an M.F.A. in poetry from Bennington and have been teaching creative writing (and also grammar) through Gotham Writers Workshop in NYC since 2004. I continue to write and publish work (I have poems in the most recent issues of *The Yale Review* and *Prairie Schooner*) and have also started teaching in the low-residency M.F.A. program in interdisciplinary arts (so oddly enough art school) at Sierra Nevada College near Lake Tahoe."

Mary's poetry has appeared in *Boog City*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, *DMQ Review*, *Hunger Mountain*, *Indiana Review* and *The Iowa Review*, among others. She is also the former co-director of the "Reading Between A and B" poetry series in New York City and is an editor emeriti of the literary journal *failbetter*.

If you're interested in looking into Mary's classes (how I wish she would teach in Boston!), find information here: writingclasses.com.

Matt Engels has joined Medcor as VP and general manager of Provider Network Services. In his newly formed role, Matt will oversee the development and delivery of services through Medcor's partners and contracted vendors. Medcor focuses on improving care quality for employees injured on the job through on-site clinics and a 24/7 triage unit. Matt lives in his hometown of Glenview, Ill., with his wife, Beth, and two children and enjoys coaching grade school football and playing golf.

I hope to catch up with Matt and a few of our classmates to cheer on **Robert Rooney** and **Julie Jacobs Menin** when they each receive a John Jay Award in early March.

Lorelei Koss is a professor in the departments of mathematics and computer science at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa. Lorelei earned a Ph.D. in mathematics in 1998 from UNC Chapel Hill. In addition to her interest in teaching undergraduate mathematics, she enjoys research on complex dynamical systems and ergodic theory. Her current research focuses on the parametrized dynamics of meromorphic functions.

I can't understand much of that, but was excited to read that, as one of Lorelei's academic bios says, she "loves taffy."

1990

Rachel Cowan Jacobs
youngrache@hotmail.com

It's always good to hear from classmates who live abroad. This came from **Peter Neisuler** in January: "I and my wife, Mariana, have settled into life at the United States Embassy in Amman, Jordan, with our boys (12 and 13) after arriving in summer 2016. We are working really hard — Amman is a post where something important is always going on — which is exciting but exhausting. Mariana is the embassy's deputy economic counselor and I'm the embassy's cultural affairs officer leading our public outreach to Jordanian youth. We'll rotate to our next post in 2019, which means we have to figure out this summer where our next adventure will be."

Lorelei Koss '89 is a professor in the departments of mathematics and computer science at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa.

In December, **Rachelle Selmon** started a job as VP of HR at Trident Dental Laboratories in Los Angeles. This came on the heels of a multi-week trip to Vietnam, which involved unforgettable scenery, people, food and floods, she says.

Melissa Steinman's passport has also been put to work: "I've been traveling the world lately representing my law firm, Venable, as a member of the Global Advertising Lawyers' Alliance, and speaking in fun and exciting places like Panama and Hamburg, Germany, on topics like advertising, sweepstakes and contest promotions and the use of user-generated content on social media. So that's been fun! Back here in Washington, D.C., I'm enjoying my 15-year-old son's thespian efforts — a chip off the old block — and missing my 19-year-old college sophomore who refused (much to my dismay) to apply to Columbia and went to Brown instead.

"I see a few Lions regularly here in D.C., including **Liz Lubow Poston** and **Amy Zalman**, and I recently had dinner with **Erik Haxthausen, Sczerina Perot** and a visiting **Steve Descoteaux.** I also make it to Los Angeles a couple of times a year for business and always try to work in a visit with L.A. peeps like **Chris Alexander, Lucia Bozzola, Claudine Wolas** and **Tania Saison** while I'm there — it's nice to see old friends when you're away from home! I'm also working to spearhead an effort to launch the D.C. chapter of Columbia College Women, so keep an eye out for the inaugural event this spring, and let me know if you're in the D.C. metro area and would like to get involved!"

From the New Jersey frontier, **John Vincenti** reports having crossed state lines to celebrate the 50th birthday of **Chris Roth.** Present at the big bash were **Paul Greenberg** and **Julie Schwartz Weber** — and, of course, the birthday boy. Turns out that being (on the heels of) 50 doesn't mean you can't close down a party!

Well done, kids.

Paul's exciting professional news is that in January, he left A+E Networks and started his own full-service, digital video consulting firm, Butter Works. Also exciting is that in December, his family got a dog. (I have known Paul since second grade. I'm pretty sure this is his first dog.)

Julie lives right outside of D.C. with her three teenage kids, her husband and their two cats. After greatly enjoying working as an employment lawyer, policy specialist and employee relations/compliance manager, she has landed her dream job, as an ombuds (mediator/coach/alternative dispute resolution specialist) for employees at a local community college. Julie says she still thinks about how much Columbia enriched and shaped her life and remains in touch with dear friends there.

I close this column with the heart-wrenching news of the January 17, 2018, death of **Wendy Hayward.** In the words of her good friend **Elyn Grossman Levine,** "It is with a heavy heart that I am letting you know our dear friend, Wendy Hayward, lost her battle to cancer this morning. I know for most this news will come as a shock since Wendy was very deliberate in her desire not to unnecessarily share 'bad news,' choosing to spend her precious time and energy fighting her illness while continuing to be an active and loving mom to her two beautiful children, Cody and Katie.

"Since her diagnosis (less than two years ago), Wendy's love of life, bravery, positivity and non-quitting spirit, even during her most challenging moments, was infectious and inspiring to everyone around her. Despite a difficult recovery from surgery in October, Wendy kept her plans to visit New York with her daughter, enduring exhausting cross-country travel and freezing temperatures, determined not to miss a single event planned, smiling from ear to ear every step of the way. Over these months Wendy continually reminded me she never lost her sense of humor, even once texting a picture as she was being rolled on a stretcher to an ambulance! Thankfully, despite a lot of ups and downs, Wendy, Rich and their children were continually supported, day in and day out, by an unbelievable network of friends who were there to help and support in countless ways.

"On January 3, I went to San Francisco to visit Wendy. We reminisced about so many memories from college and the years that followed, including when I lived with her in Pacific Heights and our many vacations together, at home and abroad. She loved looking at old photos, laughed, and, in typical Wendy fashion, did not miss an opportunity to give me a hard time about a thing or two! And, in between, we talked a lot about our children, the loss of my mom and the days, weeks and years ahead. To be sure, I am forever grateful to Rich and their children for opening up their home and giving me the opportunity to enjoy such a special and meaningful four days with Wendy and her family.

"The day after I left, Wendy texted me two quotations. The first was given to her by her maternal uncle, who explained that her great-uncle, Marriner Eccles (former chair of the Federal Reserve), often quoted Shakespeare. The second is

Columbia's Latin motto. I thought they would be something Wendy would be happy to share with others — copied and pasted directly from her text:

'Marriner/Shakespeare: "By indirection I found direction out."

In looking for direction in one direction and I found a better direction out

Columbia University's Latin motto: "In lumine Tuo videbimus lumen"

Can be literally translated as "We will (or shall) see the light in Your light." It is in God's light that we shall see light.'

"On Wendy's 50th birthday (January 9), I sent her a text: *'A friend may well be reckoned the masterpiece of nature – Ralph Waldo Emerson.'*

"Despite the years, miles, time zones and life events that might separate us, ultimately, the beautiful gift of friendship endures. If you are interested, I would be happy to forward additional information as soon as it is provided by her family. In love and friendship, Elyn."

1991

Margie Kim
margiekimkim@hotmail.com

CC'91, what's happening? Send your news to share in this column! Also, if you've hung out with a College alum recently, *CCT* loves running photos — the only requirements are that the photos be high resolution and feature at least two College alumni. You can send photos directly to *CCT* via the webform college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo. Hope you are having a wonderful spring!

1992

Olivier Knox
olivier.knox@gmail.com

Hello, Class of '92! I met **Louise Dubin** at reunion last year — that's right, 25 years after we graduated, I'm still meeting classmates. She wrote that she was "commissioned to choose the works and write the introduction for Dover Publications' *Selected Works for Cello and Piano by Auguste Franchomme*."

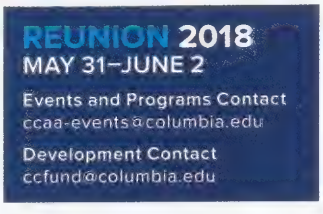
It was published last year, and includes several pieces from her album *The Franchomme Project.* Throughout 2017, Louise regularly performed in France: at the American Cathedral in Paris, at the CRR de Paris (Conservatoire à rayonnement regional) and at Salle Gaveau in Paris as part of the biannual VioloncellenSeine and at the Festival de Violoncelle de Beauvais (*violoncelle* means cello in French). While in Paris, Louise reconnected with Ulf Gennser SEAS'91, SEAS'92. Last spring, she completed her stint as solo cellist of Cirque du Soleil's *Paramour*, which she describes as "a Broadway show full of acrobats doing things that you shouldn't try at home." She also celebrated 10 years of being married to Hugh Cushing '87.

While Facebook has clearly diluted the power of Class Notes columns, it can sometimes inspire, too. I was thrilled to see fellow Carman 7 inhabitant **Wendy Greene** (who spent a chunk of Orientation dispelling claims that she was actually Jennifer Grey, if I recall correctly) post some big family news. She has graciously contributed a Class Notes entry — model behavior that I expect others to emulate. You know who you are.

Wendy writes, "In June I adopted a baby girl, Lina, who I assume will be CC 2035. I was able to be in the room for her birth, and it's been an amazing adventure ever since. She is truly lovely and I feel lucky to be her mother. We are happy at home in Brooklyn; I took six months off and only recently returned to work."

Wendy is a television producer, making a non-fiction series. No pics of Lina, Wendy writes, but "I've bought her a Columbia onesie, which she rocks, and which I hope doesn't place undue pressure on her."

1993



Betsy Gomperz
betsy.gomperz@gmail.com

As sometimes happens in this space, **Neil Turitz** is taking over reporting responsibilities for this issue. Neil is the co-chair of our 25th reunion (Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2), and in the wake of the sad news that his co-chair, **Rachel Mintz** TC'00, passed away on January 10, 2018, after a long battle with cancer, he asked to write this column. So, without further ado …

Greetings, all. **Neil Turitz** here, but you already knew that thanks to Betsy's lovely intro. Before I start talking about my friend Rachel and reunion, there is some class news. First up, my old friend **Sean Doherty** wrote in after reading the column and thought, "Why not update you on me?" So that's what he did, and I'll use his words to bring you up to speed.

"So, I'm a plastic surgeon," Sean says. "I work in Boston on Newbury Street and in Brookline, performing cosmetic and reconstructive surgeries. I am also the medical director for Cynosure, the aesthetic division of Hologic. I do clinical research there on cosmetic lasers and I am a principal investigator for the FDA clinical trials. Also, I was just named a Top Doctor in Plastic Surgery by *Boston Magazine* for 2017."

Mazel tov, Sean! That's an outstanding honor and you do us all proud. I'm friends with Sean on Facebook and often see updates, but this is terrific.

Sean keeps in touch with **Jessie Auth, Rhanda Moussa, Dan Gillies SEAS'93** and **Rebecca Boston.**

There was also word from **David Lerner,** who writes, "In 2004 I moved to the Boston area to become the rabbi of Temple Emunah in Lexington. I am fortunate to be part of such a strong community and am involved in interfaith activities including building bridges between Jews and Muslims in my role as president of the Massachusetts Board of Rabbis. My wife, Sharon Levin BC'93, SW'95 is a psychotherapist in private practice, and my children — Talya, Ari and Matan — attend pluralistic Jewish day schools nearby. Thankfully, I am still in touch with friends from Columbia and AEPi, including **Andy Schmeltz, Andrew Ceresney** and Adam Towvim '92. I hope to be at reunion this spring and look forward to reconnecting!"

Which, actually, is a good segue into the sad news I wanted to share. Many of you are part of the CC Class of '93 Facebook group, so you might have seen or heard the news about Rachel's passing. For those who didn't, this will probably come as a shock, as you most likely didn't even know she was sick. That was not an accident, as she didn't want to tell anyone about her battle with cancer, and only in the last month or two of her life did she let me tell a select few people.

Rachel and I worked together for almost a decade, first planning the 20th reunion, and then the 25th. Rachel was very much looking forward to this coming reunion, and I'll talk a bit about that shortly, but first, I'd like to write a few words about my dear friend.

We knew this was coming. We hoped it wouldn't happen until after the reunion, but it was inevitable. She had been dealing with this illness for a while now. She beat it a couple of years ago, but then it came back with a vengeance, and got progressively worse over the past year. She underwent a major procedure not long ago and we thought it might have bought her enough time to get to June, but in January that dream ended.

Many of you didn't know Rachel, and for that, I'm sorry. You missed out. Our friend **Alan Freeman** said, "She was relentlessly optimistic, and I will always remember her voice." That's true, and so will I. That, and her contagious cackle of a laugh. She was also one of the warmest, kindest, best people I've ever had the pleasure of knowing, with a razor-sharp wit that always had you on guard, in a good way. Jousting with her was one of my great pleasures, and added so much pleasure to the work we did together. And we did have a blast. Putting together the weekend so many of us will enjoy this spring was a lot more fun than you would think a normal planning session might be. Talking things through, battling with the Alumni Office, pushing through events we wanted our classmates to enjoy — all that can be a drag. When you do it with someone with the zest for life that Rachel had, it was a breeze.

There will be lots of talk over the next few months about a special scholarship tied to our class. It is the Class of 1993 25th Reunion Scholarship, which will benefit at least one student (and, it now appears, at least two or three of them) from the Class of 2018, which means that any recipients will be on our reunion schedule forever. This has never happened before. No reunion class has ever set up this kind of fund for graduat-

ing seniors, which is exactly what Columbia informed Rachel when she brought it up, and told her that it basically couldn't be done. She refused to accept that, and bullied, badgered and battered them until they figured it out. … Rachel got it done, and she did it in just a few months. If you want to give to the fund, go to columbia.edu, then "Alumni," then "Give Back," then "Support Columbia," then "Ways to Give," then "Make a Gift" then "Find a Fund." Enter "25th Reunion Scholarship," then select it.

Our reunion is going to be fantastic, with great events, most of which were Rachel's idea. I was mostly along for the ride this time, and it breaks my heart that she won't be there to see it. She will be there in spirit, though. Of that, I have no doubt.

Thanks to all, and I hope to see as many of you as possible for our 25th reunion, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2.

1994

Leyla Kokmen
lak6@columbia.edu

I got a lovely note from **Chris Hutmaker,** who wrote from Manhattan. Chris was thrilled to announce his wedding to Rebeka Bardou, celebrated in Old Montreal's Notre Dame Basilica in August. **Tony Ambroza** (a groomsman), **Chris Schmidt** and **Kate Gutman** attended.

Since graduating from The Wharton School in 1999, Chris has been working in equity capital markets, specializing in derivative and equity-linked structuring. He writes that he "recently celebrated his 15-year anniversary at Bank of America Merrill Lynch and received a lovely glass fruit bowl for my milestone."

In other career news, after five years at the Ounce of Prevention Fund, **Elliot Regenstein** recently began a new adventure as a partner at Foresight Law + Policy Advisors, a firm formed in 2015 by two of Elliot's former colleagues from EducationCounsel. "I'm planning to return to the kind of education policy consulting I did before joining the Ounce, with a focus on early learning," Elliot writes. "And I'll continue to be based in Chicago."

That's it for this time. Congratulations to both Chris and Elliot, and please keep the news coming!

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of *CCT* prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of *CCT*, its class correspondents, the College or the University. By submitting to Class Notes, you acknowledge that the text is eligible to appear in print as well as on CCT Online and in archives.

1995

Janet Lorin
jrf10@columbia.edu

I caught up with **Tova Mirvis** SOA'98 last fall before her book event at Barnes & Noble on the Upper West Side. It was wonderful to see her for the first time in more than two decades and listen to her discuss the writing of *The Book of Separation*. The nonfiction book is about her divorce and move away from Orthodox Judaism. Readers got a preview last summer with Tova's *New York Times* "Modern Love" column about the book.

Several classmates also attended the event, including **Lea Rappaport Geller** and **Adina Shoulson.**

Lea moved back to New York four and a half years ago after spending some time on the West Coast — seven years in California and seven years in Seattle. After graduating from Stanford Law in 2000, she was an attorney (including appellate work), then started writing a few years ago.

Congrats to Lea on her book, expected to be out in spring 2019. It tells the fictional story of a Santa Monica trophy wife who moves to New York and teaches middle-school English; her husband disappears with all her money. "Completely fictional!" Lea emphasizes. Lea and her family live in Riverdale. Her youngest child is in first grade and her oldest is a sophomore in high school.

Adina lives in White Plains with her husband, Todd Stern, and their three children. "It's hard to believe we are celebrating bar and bat mitzvahs and getting ready to send our oldest to high school next year," Adina writes. She is the chair of the history department at SAR H.S., a Jewish school in the Bronx, where she teaches world and European history. "It's an exhausting but fulfilling job that keeps me intellectually challenged and connecting with amazing colleagues and students every day," she writes.



Adina Shoulson '95, Lea Rappaport Geller '95, Yael Balsam '94, Tova Mirvis '95, Noa Heyman '96, Sarah Kaufman BC'95 and David Wolf '95 met in New York City during the book tour for Mirvis' *The Book of Separation: A Memoir.*

Lea and Adina see each other frequently, and in the small world of New York, their daughters are in the same class.

Arlo Devlin-Brown lived on Carman 10 with me our freshman year. Arlo graduated from Harvard Law and spent a decade at the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, where he held various roles, including chief of the Public Corruption Unit. He joined the law firm Covington & Burling as a partner in the white collar defense and investigations practice, based in New York, in August 2016. Arlo represented former Rep. Anthony Weiner (D-N.Y.) in his federal prosecution for sending obscene communications to a minor.

A huge congratulations to the *San Francisco Chronicle*'s 2017 Winemaker of the Year, **Dan Petroski**! My husband and I caught up with him in Napa Valley a few years ago at Larkmead Vineyards, where his day job is winemaker for the 123-year-old label. Dan also makes his own wine, Massican. Order some! Read all about his accomplishments here: bit.ly/2E8UDrk.

Thanks to Lea, Adina, Arlo and Dan for answering my pleas for an update! Write me at the address at the top of this column to share your news in a future issue.

1996

Ana S. Salper
ana.salper@nyumc.org

Greetings, fellow CC'96ers!
Ian Lendler had two children's picture books come out recently. *Little Sid: The Tiny Prince Who Became Buddha* is the semi-true story of the Buddha as a young prince, and *One Day a Dot* is the story of the universe from the Big Bang all the way up to now (in under 36 pages, for those who got bored in Physics 101).

Alexandra Speck recently published *Honor Girl: A Novel*, about a woman's drastic decision to move from New York as an actress to a small village in Cape Cod to reinvent herself, examining the question: Would you go back if you could? Alex studied journalism at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. She is a former actress and comedienne at Upright Citizens Brigade in New York and also wrote the popular blog Crybaby Soup. On Cape Cod, Alex was for four years a reporter for WCAI, the Cape and Islands NPR station, where she won an Edward R. Murrow Award for Writing.

Malik Rashid recently left the Asian Development Bank in Manila, Philippines, and is back

in Brooklyn with his family. His wife started a position at MJHS Health System and his daughter is in second grade. Malik writes that the last five years in Manila were great, and that he remained involved in Columbia alumni activities as chair of the Philippines Columbia Alumni Association and volunteering with the Alumni Representative Committee. He looks forward to reconnecting with many of you.

That's all I have for you this time — as always, please send in more notes! I leave you with this powerful reminder of one of 2018's finest moments thus far:

"Imagine feeling like you have no power and no voice. Well, you know what, Larry? I have both power and voice, and I am only just beginning to use them. All these brave women have power, and we will use our voices to make sure you get what you deserve: a life of suffering spent replaying the words delivered by this powerful army of survivors." — Olympic Gold Medalist Aly Raisman (to Dr. Larry Nassar at his trial)

1997

Kerensa Harrell
kvh1@columbia.edu

Greetings from sunny Florida, dear classmates! I am honored to become our new class correspondent, beginning with the Summer 2018 issue. I will soon start reaching out to you for updates. Let us thank **Sarah Katz,** our previous correspondent, for her 20 years of service. Moving forward, I encourage everyone to consider sharing updates not just on the usual career and marriage details, but also on your exotic travels, your exciting adventures, your fascinating hobbies, your philanthropic endeavors, your charming children, your daring projects, your poetic musings and your flowery reminiscences, or simply tell us about some delightful events that you attended. Or, if all else fails, you can always write merely to say hello! It would be splendid to hear from as many classmates as possible. You are welcome to start sending updates to me at kvh1@columbia.edu for the Summer 2018 issue and beyond. I look forward to hearing from everybody! *In lumine Tuo videbimus lumen.*

I and my husband, Dr. Manu Sehgal (Penn-GM'01), fortunately did not incur any damage to our Florida homes from Hurricane Irma. Our hearts go out to those who were not as fortunate as we were this hurricane season, especially the people of Puerto Rico, who have sadly been without electricity for quite a long time. I and my friends have been donating provisions to Puerto Rico and attending fundraisers to help out our southerly neighbors.

On a happier note, we joyfully celebrated the first birthday of our daughter, Amara. We hosted a nice catered luncheon in Orlando for friends and family, with several dozen guests in attendance. I decided to do a hot air balloon party theme, because she loves balloons. Amara is walking and talking now, and getting into everything, as she should. I am utterly exhausted chasing my toddler around all day, but I wouldn't trade it for anything. I love being her mother and she is the light of my life.

CCT heard from **Richard Lee,** who is the church mobilization director for International Justice Mission, a human rights organization that is the largest anti-slavery organization in the world. He recently delivered a TEDx Talk, "Slavery still exists. Here's how to end it." You can see the video at bit.ly/2o0iVga.

1998

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Sandie Angulo Chen
sandie.chen@gmail.com

Hello Class of '98! We hope you've put our 20th reunion on your calendars so that we can see as many of you as possible, Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2. Even if you cannot attend, please consider donating to the 20th reunion gift for the College.

Best wishes and congratulations to **Adria Armbrister,** who got married last summer. Adria and her groom, Franck Makouangou, met in Lima, Peru, in summer 2016 through ex-pat social media site InterNations. Adria was the social development specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank and, according to the *Times* article about their wedding, Franck was a French teacher at an international school, as well as a model/actor, at the time. The couple married at the Atlantis Resort in Paradise Island, Bahamas, on July 28. Two Columbia alums were in attendance: Natasha Johnson '99 and Karen Florez PH'12. Adria now lives in New York City, where she's a lecturer at the Mailman School of Public Health and is building a consulting firm, Nzoku Consultores, focused on supporting research and interventions that promote gender equality and training local NGOs to manage international development funds in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Congratulations to Adria and Franck!

Lizzie Simon is primarily based in the East Village. Professionally she's transitioning from journalism to screenwriting, and in January she and her husband opened a motel, The Astro, in Santa Rosa, Calif., where he's from.

Lastly, as we enter into our 20th year as alumni and some of us who married and had kids in our early- to mid-20s start to have college-bound children, please contact me if you have a child headed to Columbia. I'd love to report on the next generation of Columbia undergrads from our class.

1999

Adrienne Carter and Jenna Johnson
adieliz@gmail.com
jennajohnson@gmail.com

It was supposed to be a barn-warming.

This fall, **Jenna Johnson** and **Martin Mraz** invited friends and family to celebrate their new abode, a six-years-in-the-making barn they named The Hollow Sweet. Among those in attendance on an unseasonably warm evening for the Berkshires: **Kandi Parsons** (née Birdsell), **Dylan Hightower SEAS'99,** Matt King'01, Matt Nociti '01, Matthew Ahn '98, Michael Schiraldi SEAS'00 and Hilary Schiraldi (née Gerson) '00.

Then, surprise! It turned out to be a wedding. (Some of us had our suspicions for months.) Molly Raymond (née Eger) BC'98, newly vested by the power of the State of Massachusetts, presided over the ceremony. **Adrienne Carter,** Joshua Meyers '97 and David Raymond SEAS'98 joined in offering blessings and poems for the not-so-new couple.

For those who don't know the back story: Jenna and Martin claim not to have known each other in college, despite both spending way too much time at the ADP house on West 114th Street. Rather, they *say* that they met years later at a mutual friend's birthday party. They were married 10 years after they moved in together.

Now send your news to either of the email addresses above! Or we'll tell you more about ourselves.

2000

Prisca Bae
pb134@columbia.edu

Simeon Mills' graphic novel, *Butcher Paper*, was published last year. It has a shark-man, giant spiders and dogs with human heads, but the book's scariest character is a dad sitting around in his underwear. Simeon is a middle-school English teacher in Spokane, Wash., where he lives with his wife and two kids.

Christophe Gillet is back in New York after a 10-year stint in San Francisco, living the suburban dad life in Westchester with his wife, two children and rescue pup. Along with his son Cole (2 and a half), he and his wife recently welcomed daughter Evangeline to the family. Christophe has held various product leadership roles at companies large and small, and was recently promoted to SVP and general manager of Vimeo's

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook
facebook.com/alumnicc
Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

flagship creator platform, where he is empowering video creators to tell exceptional stories and connect with their audiences and communities.

Since Columbia, **Jane Crimmins** (née Diczok) completed the two-year New York City Teaching Fellowship and worked and took classes at Teachers College (2003–06). She fondly remembers that it was at Columbia where she was introduced to the concept of social justice and at Teachers College, where she worked with stellar staff and faculty (notably Felicia Smart Williams, Siobhan Marshall-Torres, Ida Essanason (now deceased) and Min Hong), that she gained a deeper understanding of social justice from multiple diverse female perspectives. She writes, "It was with this background, a deep desire to change the injustices of our institutions, the skills to do it from the inside and inspiration from the Women's March that I ran for local office last November and won. I am now a member of the Lewisboro Town Board in Northern Westchester. Thank you to Columbia for the opportunities it provided to expand my mind and broaden my worldview."

Yahonnes Cleary was named as a partner in the litigation department at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison in New York. He handles a broad range of complex commercial lawsuits, investigations and regulatory matters, as well as significant pro bono matters. Prior to joining Paul, Weiss, Yahonnes clerked for the Hon. Barrington D. Parker of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and earned a J.D. from Yale Law.

Ben Dubin-Thaler GSAS'08 created the BioBus in 2008 after completing a B.A. in physics and mathematics and a Ph.D. in biology, from Columbia. "Dr. Ben," as he is known to students aboard the BioBus, started the BioBus as an experiment to test his hypothesis that, given the opportunity to use research-microscopes to perform live experiments, anyone would be excited about science and want to do more. Ben and his team create a new kind of laboratory space that is empowering, accessible, un-intimidating and that facilitates scientific engagement amongst populations historically underrepresented in science professions. He hopes to create a future in which people from all cultures and backgrounds have equal opportunities to practice and understand science.

Tara Mitchell (née Gangadhar) and Mark Mitchell were married in Nashville on August 26 at the Omni Nashville Hotel. Tara is an oncologist and assistant professor of medicine at the Perelman School of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania. Mark is a managing director at Safeguard, where he focuses on technology investments.

Sam Hirzel, who is practicing corporate litigation in Wilmington, Del., at the eponymously named Heyman, Enerio, Gattuso & Hirzel writes, "I am an unpaid Brazilian Jiu Jitsu instructor on the side. Our first child, Maxwell Taylor Hirzel, was born on November 8, 2016 (Election Day! #$#@%). Max gets together regularly with the sons of **Matthew Rice SEAS'00,** BUS'04 and Joe Zilcosky '96 in Wilmington.



Matthew Rice SEAS'00 (with son George), Sam Hirzel '00 (with son Max), Joe Zilcosky '96 (with son Sydney) and David Blum SEAS'01 (with son Milo) had a get-together before Blum moved to the West Coast.

2001

Jonathan Gordin
jrg53@columbia.edu

Congratulations to **Courtney Reum** and his brother Carter Reum '03 on the release of their book, *Shortcut Your Startup: Speed Up Success with Unconventional Advice from the Trenches.*

Best of luck with the book and future business ventures!

My family and I hosted some very special visitors at our home in Los Angeles this December. Our dear friend **Dina Epstein** came to visit us from Washington, D.C., with her husband, Eitan Levisohn, and children: Ezra, Talya and Ilan. I must admit, it was hard work keeping up with the indefatigable Dina, who had us running all over town to see as much as possible, doing her best to keep us outdoors and enjoying the sunshine. We hiked all over the city with **Annie Marquit** (née Lainer) and her son, Sammy. It was wonderful getting future generations of Columbians together. **Susan Wilsey** (née Pereira) joined the fun when she and her son, Beau, met Dina and her family on Venice Beach.

Come see us again, soon, Dina!

Jason Valenstein lives with his wife and 6-year-old daughter in Falls Church, Va. He and his daughter are co-authoring children's picture books that teach stoic themes in age-appropriate ways. Jason says it is a great bonding experience and a great use of Contemporary Civilization. He recently connected with **Van DeBergh** over brunch. Van is environmental counsel to the Army Corps of Engineers and is a proud uncle of two boys.

Kate Grossman wrote in with exciting news: "Last July I was promoted to the rank of lieutenant commander in the United States Coast Guard Reserve. And in January, I became a partner at my small law firm in Bangor, Maine. I live way out in the country (10 minutes from the house I grew up in) with my husband and our kids, ages 4 and 6.

"Incidentally, I was driving recently and heard a radio ad for a concert of the Portland Symphony Orchestra being led by none other than Ken David Masur '02. Seems he is a finalist in that orchestra's search for a new conductor."

Thanks for reaching out, Kate!

As you know, I love to include photos of you in the column. Please share if you have photos of yourselves with other College alums! *CCT*'s only photo guidelines are that photos have at least two College alumni in them and the photos are high-resolution. Feel free to send them to me, with caption and photographer information and I will get it incorporated, or directly to *CCT* via the photo webform: college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo.

Let me know what you are up to this summer! Your classmates would love to hear from you.

2002

Sonia Dandona Hirdaramani
soniah57@gmail.com

Happy spring, CC'02! Thanks for sending in your news! **Elizabeth Horstmann** and her husband had their first child, a son, born on Halloween. They are all doing well and live in South Pasadena, Calif.

Matthew Himelstein and his wife, Laura, welcomed their son, Meyer Charles, to the family in July. Matthew manages software engineers in Silicon Valley and his wife teaches fourth grade in Oakland, Calif. Meyer wore his Columbia onesie the day the Lions beat Brown to finish 8–2 for the 2017 season. Roar, Lion, Roar!

Natalie Robin moved to Philadelphia in August to become the program head of theater design and technology at The University of the Arts. She regularly sees **Sandy London** and Sarah Bishop-Stone '04.

After 15 years of working in nonprofits, philanthropy and government, in November **Alison "Ali" Gold** embarked on a seven-month "life sabbatical," during which she traveled to 11 countries and 10 states and explored how she next wanted to contribute positively to the world. Her travels also gave her the chance to reconnect with fellow Columbians virtually and in-person. While roadtripping from Phoenix to Washington, D.C., she met up with Megan Jackler (née Romigh) BC'03 on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi



EZRA LEVISOHN

Dina Epstein '01, Jonathan Gordin '01 and Annie Marquit (née Lainer) '01 met in December at Los Angeles' Union Station.

for a delicious Abita root beer. She thanks **Ishwara Glassman Chrein** for introducing them! And while in Frankfurt, she caught up with **Ben Letzler** over dinner. After wrapping up her travels last June, Ali returned to her on-and-off hometown of D.C. and launched her own consultancy, Optimistic Anthropology, which she says "helps organizations in all sectors and collaborations create a more positive world by helping them better understand complex social problems and the skills and cultures needed to address them."

2003

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Michael Novielli
mjn29@columbia.edu

Hope that you're as excited about our 15th reunion as we are! It will be here before we know it: Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2.

Carter Reum and Courtney Reum '01's book, *Shortcut Your Startup: Speed Up Success with Unconventional Advice from the Trenches*, has achieved incredible success, including being rated as the number 1 New Release in New Business Enterprises on Amazon. Several classmates came out to the book launch in New York City, including **Kim Grant, Brandon Victor Dixon,** Archana Pinnapureddy BC'03 and Kanchana Pinnapureddy BC'03.

Sharif Nesheiwat writes that his second son, Laith, was born in November 2016, and that he himself was appointed as a United States administrative law judge in April 2017, seated in lower Manhattan and adjudicating federal executive agency matters.

Christina Pfenning Craig writes, "I am an associate editor for two magazines —*Country Woman* and *Farm & Ranch Living* — and I also have my own college counseling business. My son is 2. Looking forward to showing him Columbia during reunion!"

Josh Hurvitz lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife and two children and is VP of public policy at Time Warner. His son Matthew has his eyes set on a spot in the Lions' baseball starting lineup in 2030.

Ebony Dix writes, "I am in my final year of psychiatry residency at West Virginia University in Morgantown, W.Va. I will be heading to Yale in July for a geriatric psychiatry fellowship."

Daniel Shamah recently made partner at O'Melveny! The press release reads, "Seamlessly blending restructuring and litigation expertise, Daniel advises financial institutions, hedge funds, and public and private companies in a wide array of restructuring, bankruptcy, and insolvency cases, focusing his practice on lender liability, fraudulent conveyances, complex commercial litigation, and other distressed debt investment situations. Daniel also has deep experience advising companies and financial institutions in cross-border insolvency and chapter 15 cases … Daniel joined O'Melveny in 2006, initially practicing as a litigation associate, before clerking for U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge Martin Glenn, a former O'Melveny litigation partner."

Gil Selinger was recognized by *Colorado BIZ Magazine* as one of 2018's Top 25 Young Professionals in Colorado.

Jeff Hsieh and his wife, Jacqui Wu, are now the proud parents of son Hunter. Jeff is an anesthesiologist at CarePoint Health.

Leah B. Rorvig recently published an article, "What a Gatorade Bottle Taught Me About Functional Assessment," in the GeriPal blog: bit.ly/2EDKVAp.

In addition to supervising social work students and provide psychotherapy at a community mental health clinic, **Francis Lora** SW'09 is independently pursuing his interest in Autism Spectrum Disorder. In an attempt to consolidate available resources, he founded "So Grand! – 'Your Source of Guidance and Resources for Autism and Neuro-Diversity.'" Additionally, he is designing an eight-week supportive group coaching experience for parents of autistic children, "So Your Child is Autistic … Now What?!" Francis plans to initially deliver it as a Thought Transformation Trainer, but it will eventually be manualized for scalability and reach. He recently attended NESTCon, a two-day conference at NYU, where he learned more about Autism and the NEST Program, which provides inclusive and appropriate education to autistic children in classrooms with neurotypically developing students at designated public schools, as well as about helpful interventions for working with autistic children and adults.

Francis is doing all of this while trying to continue to have family time with his wife, Jennifer Guerrero BC'03, and two boys, and is hoping to attend our 15-year reunion.

2004

Jaydip Mahida
jmahida@gmail.com

Elizabeth A. Sullivan has been working in private wealth management for the better part of a decade and, for the past several years, have been a senior financial adviser and partner in The Mann Sullivan Group at Merrill Lynch in New York City. She writes, "In December, I was honored to be asked to speak at the UN Women Headquarters in midtown Manhattan about the specific issues women encounter relating to their wealth throughout their financial lives. My talk was part of the organization's innovation series dedicated to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women.

"In addition to my work in wealth management, I have been very involved in engaging the next generation of business leaders in support of the arts in New York City. Since early 2016, I've been co-chair of the Junior Business Council of The Lincoln Center Corporate Fund, helping to raise unrestricted dollars in support of the 10 performing arts institutions across the Lincoln Center campus."

Jon Schalit has joined the legal department of Wells Fargo as senior counsel in Los Angeles.

Katie Zien is completing her fifth year as assistant professor at McGill. She recently published her first book, *Sovereign Acts: Performing Race, Space, and Belonging in Panama and the Canal Zone*. She and her partner welcomed their first child, Ariel Madeleine Zien Sonderegger, in November.

Janine Sutton Golub and her husband moved to Carroll Gardens, Brooklyn, in 2015: "We have really enjoyed the neighborhood and being in NYC. We welcomed our first child, Ella, on January 1, 2017. We finally settled into our own home last summer and are almost done with renovations!"

Lauren Schwartz recently visited New York from Philadelphia to hang out with **Laura Sherman, Shirley Cho SEAS'04** and **Elizabeth Goldman.** "Hard to believe I am the only one of the four who has left New York City. Also amazing: All our kids get along even though they don't get to hang out too often," Lauren writes.

Richard Hunter Rivera writes: "My wife, **Jessica Sledge,** and I welcomed Lucía Liliana Hunter into the world on November 2. She was born at home in Shreveport, La., and is thriving. Not sure how many '04+'04 babies are out there but we are thrilled to add one to the mix!"

Shira Schoenberg JRN'06 and her husband, Greg Bunimovich, welcomed a daughter, Avigail Felice, in May. Shira is a political reporter covering the Massachusetts State House for the *Springfield Republican* (masslive.com), a daily newspaper in Western Massachusetts.

Johanna Jenkins (née Quigley) recently completed a master's in higher education through Drexel's School of Education. She says she looks forward to translating this success into a career in student services or admissions.

Please continue to send in updates, as we want to hear from as many folks as possible. Career and family news is always fun, but please reach out to share about trips you might take, events you have attended or are looking forward to, or even interesting books or shows you have come across. You can send updates

either via the email at the top of the column or through the *CCT* Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2005

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

Happy spring, Class of 2005! **Grace Sterritt** married Alex Chehansky in June in her hometown of Annapolis, Md. Columbia alumni in attendance included **Molly Breiner** (née Friedensohn), **Moira Chance** (née O'Toole), **Whitney Booker SEAS'05, Ali Manigat, Olivier Manigat,** Maggie Rowan '04 (née Via), Garrett Rowan '04, Molly Hassenfelt '07, Marisa Marcellino '08, Ashley Mehl '08 and Ben Nwachukwu '08. Grace is an executive director at J.P. Morgan Private Bank in New York, and Alex is a partner at Ninth Wing Partners.

Travis DiRuzza married Jessica Garfield-Kabbara on Siesta Key Beach in Florida and were joined by Mischa Byruck '04, Geoff Barrows '04, Sean Lincoln '06, Lev Brie '04, Jake Porway SEAS'04, Gideon Shapiro '04, **Becca Jacobs** and Reed English, father of the late Garland English SEAS'04.

Rujeko Hockley and **David Fierman** met up at the NADA Art Fair in Miami in December.



In December, Rujeko Hockley '05 (left) and David Fierman '05 met up at the New Art Dealers Alliance Art Fair in Miami.

Ryan Gaglio and **Holly Gaglio** celebrated their 10th anniversary in January in Mexico with their two sons.

Thanks to all who wrote in! If you'd like your news in a future issue, send a note to cct@columbia.edu!

2006

Michelle Oh Sing
mo2057@columbia.edu

Armond Adams recently transitioned into a new career. After 10 great years in the media and ad tech sales space, he finally decided to pursue his passion in real estate. He is now a licensed real estate salesperson with Keller Williams NYC. As the saying goes, "You never know until you try!" He says that he has truly enjoyed this new endeavor and says classmates should feel free to reach out to him via Facebook for all their real estate needs.

From **Adam Zucker:** "In January, I launched the luxury real estate brokerage at Christie's, a first in the auction house's 250-plus-year history. This spring my team and I will embark on a global tour to cross-promote our business together with the upcoming sale of "The Collection of Peggy and David Rockefeller." Would love to connect with alumni in Los Angeles, Miami, London, Geneva, Dubai and/or Hong Kong, and invite anyone interested in a private tour to stop by our new offices at 20 Rockefeller Plaza."

I hope everyone is having a wonderful spring! Please send your news to me at mo2057@columbia.edu!

2007

David D. Chait
david.donner.chait@gmail.com

Thank you, everyone, for sharing your exciting updates! **Julia Kite** writes, "In October, I became the director of strategic initiatives at the New York City Department of Transportation, focusing on the Vision Zero program to end road deaths and serious injuries."

John Schneider writes, "My wife, Stephanie Pahler BC'05, and I are proud to announce the birth of our third child, Thomas John, in October. Everyone is happy and healthy, and his sisters, Elizabeth (4) and Emily (2), are very excited. Meanwhile, I'm in Houston working for Chevron as an exploration geologist in the Deepwater Gulf of Mexico."



Andy Sama SEAS'07, Garrett Leahy '07, Alex Verbuch SEAS'07, Ali Cerutti '07, Michael Fishel '07, Jeremy Maletz '07, Adam Kaufman '07 and Ben Yaghoubian SEAS'07 at 1 Hotel Brooklyn Bridge for the afterparty of Michael Margello '07 and Ally Ghiorzi's February wedding.

Becca Hartog shares, "I got married last June to Peter LaRossa. In July, I will complete my combined internal medicine-pediatrics residency and begin a fellowship in pediatric cardiology at C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, Mich. Sad to leave Pittsburgh for snowier pastures, but excited for the next chapter of my life."

After raising more than $150,000 for Planned Parenthood through her Run 4 All Women initiative, **Alison Mariella Désir** GSAS'11, TC'16 was inducted into "The Root 100" alongside Beyoncé, Ava DuVernay and Colin Kaepernick, among others. The Root 100 is an annual list of the most influential African-Americans, ages 25–45, that honors the innovators, the leaders, the public figures and the game-changers whose work from the past year is breaking down barriers and paving the way for the next generation.

Alissa Ochs and Pete Chromiak '06 had a baby girl, Henrietta Diane "Hattie" (CC 2040), in late October. Brother Fitz (CC 2038) and parents were all bundled up for their first winter in the Minneapolis area.

Sam Sternberg writes, "After celebrating my 10-year reunion just last year, I'm thrilled to be returning to Columbia as an assistant professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biophysics. Life in California has been great, but I'm ready to make NYC my home again!"

And some classmates are writing in from abroad …

Aditi Sriram writes, "I teach at a new private university, Ashoka. If you happen to be in Delhi, do let me know. If you're interested, I'll organize a visit for you to check out the place!"

Sean Colenso-Semple lives in The Hague, where he is a legal adviser at the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal. He says he would be pleased to hear from classmates who are passing through the Netherlands.

David Greenhouse: "After a happy eight years in the United Kingdom, I have moved to Berlin for a new adventure. Drop me a line if you're nearby."

2008

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Neda Navab
nn2126@columbia.edu

Happy spring, Class of 2008! As of September, **Natnael Moges** is a managing associate at Dentons US in Chicago. He was previously an associate at Drinker, Biddle & Reath.

Lauren Abbott, Neda Navab and **Alexandra Cannon SEAS'08**

Just Married!

CCT welcomes wedding photos where at least one member of the couple is a College alum. Please submit your high-resolution photo, and caption information, on our photo webform: **college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo**. Congratulations!



1


2

JUSTIN LEE


3


4

WILLIAM M. FREDERICKS (HEATHWOOD PHOTOGRAPHY)


5


6


7

JPG PHOTOGRAPHY


8

KYLE MERRITT



9

ENUEL VIERA PHOTOGRAPHY


10

LORYLE


12


11

1. Grace Sterritt '05 married Alex Chehansky in June in her hometown of Annapolis, Md. Alumni pictured include Molly Breiner (née Friedensohn) '05, Moira Chance (née O'Toole) '05, Whitney Booker SEAS'05, Ali Manigat '05, Olivier Manigat '05, Maggie Rowan (née Via) '04, Molly Hassenfelt '07, Marisa Marcellino '08, Ashley Mehl '08 and Ben Nwachukwu '08.

2. Valerie Sapozhnikova '10 married Andrew Gallina on September 16 at Brooklyn's Liberty Warehouse. Left to right: Mariah Samost BC'08, Michael Topol '10, Brittany Shiller '11, Alexa Hubbard '10, Polly Silverman '10, the groom, Alexandra Paddock '10, the bride, Tess Finkel '10, Scott Wang '10, Austin Hamilton '10, Maximo Cubilette '10, Ashley Platt '10, Sue Yang '10, Sophia Guy-White '10 and Max Cooper '10.

3. Jacquelyn La Torre '10, TC'12 married Arvind Ravichandran '09, LAW'12 on July 22 at Dyker Beach Golf Course in Brooklyn, N.Y. Left to right: Vitaly Bord '09; Lauren La Torre '08, TC'12; Jonathan Waisnor LAW'12; the groom; the bride; Heidi Bonilla '10, PH'13; and Elizabeth Chang '10.

4. Lauren Abbott '08, Neda Navab '08 and Alexandra Cannon SEAS'08 celebrated the wedding of Amanda Rosencrans '08 to Mike Van Pelt in Philadelphia on September 3.

5. Travis DiRuzza '05 married Jessica Garfield-Kabbara on Siesta Key beach in Florida, where they were joined by Mischa Byruck '04, Geoff Barrows '04, Sean Lincoln '06, Lev Brie '04, Jake Porway SEAS'04, Gideon Shapiro '04, Becca Jacobs '05 and Reed English, father of the late Garland English SEAS'04.

6. Tara Mitchell (née Gangadhar) '00 and Mark Mitchell were married August 26 at the Omni Nashville Hotel in Nashville. Left to right: Neel Mehta (mutual friend who introduced them, and brother of Sapna Mehta '00), Christine Martinez '00, Stephen Miller '00, Shalinee Khurana '00, Theresa Sim '00, Abby Gordon '00, Leslie Kandel (née Zivin) '00, the bride, the groom, Ravi Amaravadi '96, Eric Czepyha '00, Andrew Warshawer '00, Michael Saarinen '00 (with his wife, Karen Rosenberg) and Ravi Shankar SEAS'00 (with Tina Peters).

7. Brian Kauffman '07 married Stacey Kallem in Philadelphia on August 1, 2016, at Atrium at Curtis Center. Left to right: Julien Dumoulin-Smith SEAS'07, Elan Gada '07, the groom, Jason Schulman '07 and Terence Zaleski '07.

8. John Doody '66 married Anna Granerud on December 3 on the roof terrace of the couple's Fort Lauderdale, Fla., home.

9. Carolyn Matos '12 and Peter Holst-Grubbe '12 were married in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on December 2. Top row, left to right: Shea Selsor '10, Will Claunch '12, Sam Cecil '12, Ian Quirk '11, Ben Popeck '12, Bryan Kipp SEAS'11, Tucker Cain '12, Chris Groth '12, Bob Hauschildt '12 and Ben Evans SEAS'12. Bottom row, left to right: Rafael Lopez '12, Camila Schaulsohn '12, Amanda Goodhart '12, Lauren Cecil BC'12, the groom, the bride, Robin Lee '12, Kalila Hoggard '12, Yulia Antontseva '13, Kristin Hehir '13, David Chao '12, Francois Anderson '12 and Russell Kostelak '11.

10. David Zhu '12 married Layna Ai on March 17, 2017, at Villa del Balbianello in Lake Como, Italy.

11. Chris Hutmaker '94 married Rebeka Bardou in August in Old Montreal's Notre-Dame Basilica. Groomsman Tony Ambroza '94, Chris Schmidt '94 and Kate Gutman '94 attended.

12. Alumni gathered at the October 21 wedding of Maddy Joseph '12 and Sam Klug '12 in Washington, D.C. Left to right: Evelyn Jagoda '14, Marilyn Robb '13, Amirah Sequeira '12, Brandon Lewis '13, Todd Nelson '12, Diane Jean-Mary '13, Kevin Gould '12, Usha Sahay '12, Virat Gupta '12, John Oxenreiter '12, Allison Grossman BC'12 and Jonathan Holmes.



Evan Schutzman '07 and Eric Bondarsky '07 reunited in Rego Park, Queens, on January 6.

celebrated the wedding of **Amanda Rosencrans** to Mike Van Pelt in Philadelphia on September 3.

Don't forget that our 10th reunion is Thursday, May 31—Saturday, June 2!

2009

Alidad Damooei
damooei@gmail.com

Emily Rose Jordan and her husband, David Greenhouse '07, welcomed a son, Wilbur, in March 2017. Their little family recently relocated from London to Berlin, where Emily is head of research for MEDIGO, a digital health startup.

Last year **Daniella Zalcman** launched Women Photograph, an organization working to elevate the voices of female and non-binary visual journalists. It began as a database of 600-plus independent photographers based in 87 countries, and has since then expanded to include a grants program, an annual workshop, a mentorship program and a data research team.

Thanks for writing in, Emily Rose and Daniella! Everyone else, please send your news to damooei@gmail.com!

2010

Julia Feldberg Klein
juliafeldberg@gmail.com

After only 13 years of dating, **Valerie Sapozhnikova** married Andrew Gallina on September 16 at Liberty Warehouse in Red Hook, Brooklyn. It was a fun and beautiful evening, and the College reunion was one of the highlights — attendees included **Andrew Colvin, Max Cooper, Maximo Cubilette,** Alexandra Duffey BC'10, **Tess Finkel, Sophia Guy-White, Austin Hamilton, Alexa Hubbard,** Stephanie Nass '13, **Alexandra Paddock, Ashley Platt,** Mariah Samost BC'08, **Brittany Shiller, Polly Silverman, Michael Topol, Scott Wang** and **Sue Yang.** It was a blast to see everyone!

Some of our classmates have had some impressive developments — two of them published books that have gained a lot of attention. **Morgan Parker** and **Adam Valen Levinson** were recently featured in conversation in *The Paris Review*, communicating about the difficulty of communicating. Morgan's recent book, *There Are More Beautiful Things Than Beyoncé*, triggered extreme responses from the Beyhive, feeling slighted by the alleged sacrilege in her title. [Editor's note: See "Columbia Forum," Winter 2017–18.] And in December, Adam's *The Abu Dhabi Bar Mitzvah: Fear and Love in the Middle East* sparked a small flurry of op-eds and counter op-eds, but was ultimately deemed by *The New York Times* to be so self-lacerating as to be "hard to criticize." Thanks to Columbia, Morgan and Adam have found partners in controversy.

Monica Quaintance shares, "In 2017 I left my job as a senior data engineer at Rent the Runway and became the first hire at a cryptocurrency startup in Brooklyn, Kadena.io. We're working on some amazing tech and I'm finally using that statistics and probability degree!"

Tzu-San Hung writes, "I started a role in the corporate development and investor relations team at Lyft, based in San Francisco. We are in the process of building a team to put structure and process in place to evaluate strategic initiatives. Let me know if you are ever in the area and want a tour of our HQ!"

And finally, our quarterly installment from **Chris Yim:** "Recently, I found myself bored by a lot of the conversation that I was having. I found myself engaged in small talk (about the weather, sports and politics) and realized that there has to be a way to cut through to more meaningful dialogue. I thought about asking people, 'What do you like to talk about?' believing that I could get excited about anything that my conversation partner is into. However, when you find yourself in conversation, this question is much harder to ask than you'd think. While at a social gathering in San Francisco, I started talking to a guy from Belgium who didn't know anyone else at the event. Feeling as though the conversation was heading in a direction that I did not like, I asked him the question that I had wanted to ask so many people. Finally! He responded by saying that he likes listening and hearing stories, which is why he likes hanging out with friends. With friends, he can hear stories about characters that he has investment in and learn events and details about their lives.

"I soon realized why I don't find myself telling many stories. I am really bad at it. I have this habit of including too many irrelevant details. They're usually relevant to me because in my head, the details are what color the story and provide it with meaning to me. However, to the outside observer and listener, the details hardly matter. During the holidays, my wife, Grace, and I were at her parents' home having a sleepover with her 6-year-old niece. While she was asleep, we stayed up like young couples do, chatting about various things. We got onto this topic of my bad storytelling, and so I decided to practice my storytelling with Grace. I would start by just telling a story my way (with all the details), then she would re-tell the story back to me in an entertaining fashion, which would be followed by me recounting her version of the story back to her. After multiple attempts at this with stories that should have been funny, I gave up. Oral storytelling is just not my thing.

"That evening, I did remember a funny tale that happened during college with two friends from school, whom I will call Andrew and Brian. We were in Koreatown in Manhattan at a restaurant. While having dinner, Andrew went outside to take a phone call. During that time, a stranger started to provoke an argument with Andrew. This quickly escalated with the two of them getting in each other's faces and having words. At that moment, Brian came out of the restaurant to check on Andrew and saw that Andrew and the other guy were about to hit each other. In reaction, Brian leapt out to hold Andrew back by grabbing hold of both of his arms. In the same instant, the enemy jumped out and whacked Andrew across the face; he was powerless to do anything because Brian had handcuffed him.

"This tale is to just say that fighting doesn't get us anywhere. Don't do it.

"In April, Grace and I will take off from San Francisco for a nine-month trip. We're very lucky to have this opportunity. If you have travel plans this year and would like to meet up with us, shoot me a note. We figure that this may be one of our few opportunities to travel and spend this kind of dedicated time together before we start trying to grow our family again. I will miss San Francisco, and we will use our time elsewhere to reflect on what we want most. Community is one thing that is of immense importance to me. I want to spend more time around my closest friends. However, with competing priorities and factors that draw us away from one another, this becomes increasingly difficult.

"Ever since seeing *The Disaster Artist*, I have been inspired to become a filmmaker and tell more stories. It's amazing that for how many Asians live in America, we hardly see them portrayed in the media, and we don't really get that much exposure to the Asian-American experience. It's unique. It's great. Non-Asian Americans enjoy our food all the time but hardly take the time to learn about our tales and experiences to get here. The only piece about becoming an artist that I am trying to figure out is that when you want to become an artist, you have to be obsessive about it; almost to the point where you alienate everyone else. I am not sure that I

Submit Your Photo

CCT welcomes Class Notes photos that feature at least two College alumni. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

am ready to do this quite yet, as I still like my wife, friends and family.

"Speaking of family, I wrote an article for Medium about my Asian-American experience. Sometimes I get down on myself for thinking that the gap between me and my parents is far. I get sadder thinking that we are disadvantaged because we don't speak the same language. However, with all the crazy stuff that is happening in our country, I am seeing how it all starts with conversation and putting yourself out there. I also realized that my family isn't as messed up as I thought it was: We're actually quite put together and fortunate. I don't think that I ever really got to thank my parents enough for the opportunities they provided for me, but in case they're reading this right now, I send a shoutout to Hung and Gyung Yim. Y'all are the real MVPs.

"I will close this post with this: When I got to Columbia, I went to school with a lot of rich white kids whose parents and grandparents grew up here and were rich. While I don't consider myself wealthy, I realize that as the first-generation American in my family, I am establishing that legacy for my children and grandchildren. It's kind of a crazy thought. I feel sort of like Alexander Hamilton (Class of 1778), without the dueling part.

"My favorite shows of 2017 were *Insecure* with Issa Rae and *The Night Of* with Riz Ahmed. Also, a special shoutout to my Los Angeles friends whom I got to see while I was in town for my 30th: Rebecca Usoro BC'12 is pursuing a dream in screenwriting, **Edwin Elias** is writing and living the Southern California dream and **Cliff Massey** doesn't get enough credit for his work organizing the alumni network. You guys are awesome!

"This year: Tiger Woods will win a major. You heard it here first. And, I'll see y'all at Burning Man!"

2011

Nuriel Moghavem and Sean Udell
nurielm@gmail.com
sean.udell@gmail.com

The Class of 2011 has its first congressional candidate! **Sara Jacobs** is running as a Democrat for California's Fightin' 49th District, a coastal district just north of San Diego, currently represented by a Republican. If elected, Sara will be the youngest woman ever elected to Congress.

We wish you the best of luck, Sara, and are happy we finally found a way to put the upcoming midterm elections into Class Notes. This summer, make sure that you're registered to vote and, in November, vote!

We also have an all-2011 wedding! **Carmen Rosenberg-Miller** and **Scott Maxfield** celebrated their marriage on July 21 in Mallorca, Spain. Many of their Columbia friends (and family members) made the trip to Mallorca, where Carmen and her family have spent summer vacations for almost two decades. Carmen and Scott started dating during their junior year at Columbia and, more than eight years later, are now happily married and living in North Brooklyn.

Jazz-pianist-turned-roots-musician **Sam Reider** is casually redefining American music on the accordion. He's been featured at Lincoln Center and on NPR, and performed alongside pop stars, virtuosos and folk musicians around the world ranging from Jon Batiste and Stay Human, to viral YouTube sensation cdza and T-Pain, to Americana singer Jim Lauderdale to Grammy Award-winning Venezuelan musician Jorge Glem. Sam's newest record, *Too Hot to Sleep*, presents his unique compositional voice alongside an ensemble of top-drawer musical collaborators and compadres called The Human Hands. Visit samreidermusic.com for music and tour dates.

[Editor's note: Hear more from Reider on CCT Online: college.columbia.edu/cct/latest. Select "Lion's Den," then scroll to the bottom to select Reider's essay.]

We're thrilled for Sam's successes and are happy we finally found a way to put T-Pain into Class Notes.

Dhruv Vasishtha returns to our column to share that he was with **Teddy Poll** in Philadelphia's Rittenhouse Square when he bumped into some of his Wharton School friends. After meeting Teddy, one remarked: "I have never met anyone else like that."

We completely concur and are happy we finally found a way to put Teddy into Class Notes.

See you next quarter!



GANESH RAMAKRISHNAN

Bob Headland of the Scott Polar Research Institute, Chuck Roberts '12 and James Rathmell '12 celebrated the New Year at Brown Bluff, Antarctica, for the New Year's Antarctic Expedition.

2012

Sarah Chai
sarahbchai@gmail.com

On top of some awesome career moves, we have two Columbia love stories to share this time around!

Carolyn Matos Montes and **Peter Holst-Grubbe,** who were married in December, shared their story: "We met our sophomore year outside McBain during one of the many fire alarms and have been inseparable ever since. We married in [Carolyn's] hometown of San Juan, Puerto Rico, eight years after we met. Despite all the hardships brought on by the hurricane we decided to keep our wedding date and venue to support the community and island we love, and the day was perfect! We were joined by 21 CC, SEAS and BC alums who traveled to the island and supported the local economy post-Hurricane Maria — it was the most magical day. Wish we could do it every year!"

A little more than nine years after meeting in Carman in 2008, **Maddy Joseph** and **Sam Klug** got married in October in Washington, D.C. The couple was thrilled to have many of their Columbia friends celebrating along with them! They send a shoutout to bridesmaids **Usha Sahay** and Allison Grossman BC'12, and groomsmaid **Amirah Sequeira.**

Congratulations to **Kristin Simmons,** whose work (paintings and prints) was showcased at a solo exhibition, *Desperate Pleasures,* at Galerie Mourlot in New York City October 20–November 25. Kristin is looking forward to a solo show at Denis Bloch Gallery in Los Angeles this April/May.

Ashley Lhérisson LAW'17 shared exciting news about starting her own business: "After the New York and California bar exams, I started my first business: Ivy Grad Services, a premier consulting service on a mission to change the face of one-on-one tutoring by providing prospective and current graduate students with guidance and advice through the entire grad school process. The main focus of Ivy Grad Services is J.D. and M.B.A. admissions consulting. In starting this venture, I am committed to helping students use their unique story to craft a narrative that showcases their strengths, highlights their promise and convinces admissions officers and employers that their diverse experiences are worth investing in. Ivy Grad Services is full-service and covers everything from the admissions stage (including résumé and cover letter review, and essay drafting) to successful job placement and guidance through the certification phase, whether that be passing the bar exam or building your professional network. Ivy Grad Services provides invaluable advice, tips and strategies to help you excel in graduate school and successfully launch your career. If you're interested in learning more and spreading the word, check out my website and send me an email: ashley@ivygradservices.com."

Hope to hear from the rest of you soon!

2013

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Tala Akhavan
talaakhavan@gmail.com

After graduation, **Alon Sicherman** founded a film production company, L-Vision, specializing in drones and other technical camera platforms. Since its founding, L-Vision has worked with clients such as Apple, *The New York Times*, *Vice*, Supreme, the UN and many more. Alon recently won an Emmy Award for his cinematography on a commercial showcasing the 2016–17 season of the Mets and Yankees. He also won a Telly Award for his drone cinematography with a farming initiative for *New York State Grown and Certified*. In January he attended the Sundance Film Festival, where *Crime + Punishment*, a documentary he shot aerials for, won a Special Juror Award.

Congratulations, Alon!

After working at Citigroup in New York for four years, **Perry Nickerson** decided to leave the city and work his way east to pursue an interest in Asia — more specifically, China. After leaving his job in spring 2017, he spent the summer getting a private pilot's license in the United States before heading to Indonesia to spend several months teaching English to underprivileged children. He lives in Taipei and is completing a one-year master's in Chinese at the National Taiwan University. Once he has completed that degree, he'll head to Beijing to get an M.B.A. at Peking University, with the hopes of then finding a full-time job in Shanghai.

Our five-year reunion is rapidly approaching! Come back to campus Thursday, May 31–Saturday, June 2!

2014

Rebecca Fattell
rsf2121@columbia.edu

Chris Zombik completed his third year at an education consulting firm in Shanghai, where he works closely with bright and ambitious Chinese high schoolers who are preparing to attend elite American colleges. Outside of work, Chris has been busy studying Mandarin, participating in the Shanghai Writing Workshop, helping his fellow American expats register to vote through Democrats Abroad and taking in all the diverse flavors and excitements of life in China's most dynamic city.

Please share your news in this space! *CCT* welcomes photos as long as they feature at least two College alums and are high-resolution (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo). Hope you have a wonderful spring!

2015

Kareem Carryl
kareem.carryl@columbia.edu

Hello, Class of 2015! It's hard to believe it's already spring — it feels like 2018 just started! Let's jump right into the news!



Muir Woods National Monument Park Ranger Laura Booth '15 led a guided walk of the woods in August for Columbia alumni.

Alex Ngan is finishing his second year at the UC Berkeley–UCSF Joint Medical Program, and is interested in orthopedic surgery with a specialization in sports medicine. He plans to continue swimming this summer and to train for the Olympic Trials in 2020. He says, "Would like to give thanks to the Columbia swimming and diving team, as well as the opportunities Columbia afforded!"

Laura Booth sent the following: "Since May 2017, I've been a park ranger for the National Park Service at Muir Woods National Monument, an old-growth redwood forest. In partnership with the Columbia Alumni Association, I led a guided walk in August for alums that discussed untold stories of Muir Woods. We revisited some of the themes of the Core as they pertain to public lands and civic engagement. One of my favorite programs to give in the forest is based on the back-of-the-envelope calculation technique we learned in Frontiers of Science. I use this tool to guide the public in a calculation of how many redwoods are in Muir Woods — and to lead a discussion about how we value redwood forests."

Laura sent along a photo from the alumni walk, in which you will find **Sara Garner SEAS'15**, Vaibhav Vavilala SEAS'17 (who happened to be her resident in Furnald when she was an RA) and several other members of the Class of 2015!

As always, your classmates want to hear from you! Please be sure to submit updates to Class Notes by writing me at the address at the top of the column or using the *CCT* Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.



Saaket Pradhan '16 held a pre-Thanksgiving reunion dinner with his roommate, Andrew Lawson GS'16. Left to right: Ethan Shapiro GS'16, Allie Lavine '16, Sameer Mishra '16, Sarita Patankar '14, Charles Sanky '16, Andrew Liu '16, Anna Broadbent '16, Nathan Kung '16, Alicia Schleifman '18, Kareem Carryl '15, Andrew Lawson GS'16, Sean Liu SEAS'16, Grayson Warrick '16, Angad Singh '16, Justin Walters '16, Saaket Pradhan '16, Jaclyn Willner '14 and Ben Makansi '16.

2016

Lily Liu-Krason
lliukrason@gmail.com

The Class of 2016 has been super busy. I have some great updates this time around for y'all, but one quick announcement before the fun: I moved to Brooklyn! Please reach out if you want to share an update with the class or catch up!

Saaket Pradhan held a pre-Thanksgiving reunion dinner with his roommate, Andrew Lawson GS'16. Attending were Ethan Shapiro GS'16, **Allie Lavine, Sameer Mishra,** Sarita Patankar '14, **Charles Sanky, Andrew Liu, Anna Broadbent, Nathan Kung,** Alicia Schleifman '18, Kareem Carryl '15, **Sean Liu SEAS'16, Grayson Warrick, Angad Singh, Justin Walters,** Jaclyn Willner '14 and **Ben Makansi.**

Yixin Sun writes, "I recently did the Chicago Triathlon with **Manny Tamargo SEAS'16, Brandon Martinez** and Ben Xue '14."

From **Kalman Victor:** "Since graduating, Kalman has become the proud adoptive father of two guinea piglets. When he's not contemplating how fatherhood has changed everything, he's still enjoying New York and all of its charms, aside from the precipitous decline of the MTA. The startup he co-founded during his junior year was just recently 'acqui-hired,' and at a new enterprise, he's on a team building a life science research analytics platform. Big Data, AI, NLP [Neuro-Linguistic Programming], authorial disambiguation and other jargony terms are used freely around him, and he's gotten good at pretending to know what's going on

at work. He lives in Brooklyn with his lifetime platonic partner, **Gabriel Merkin,** and still hopes to write some fiction that might someday be worthy of inclusion in an alumni update. He has also taken to only writing about himself in the third person."

From **Angel Wang:** "Hey, 2016 — I graduated from Columbia a semester early to work at a refugee camp in Lesvos, Greece. Now, as a digital transformation consultant, my trips to Seattle, Toronto and Dubai are testing my limits in a different way. I've found a home for my airline points and my passion for advocating refugee rights through my volunteer work with Miles4Migrants, a nimble nonprofit that reunites refugee families using donated frequent flyer miles and rewards points to book flights — and it's eagerly seeking donations! I also volunteer with Eat Offbeat, an immigrant-founded food startup that trains refugee chefs to create and deliver authentic meals. In my downtime, I'm always eager for new friends to go longboarding or play tennis with!"

From **David Hamburger:** "Three weeks after graduation I was on a plane to Kolkata to begin a 10-month Fulbright English Teaching Fellowship. During my time in Kolkata, I helped my students master the simple future tense, Michael Jackson dance moves and how to 'trick or treat.' I loved my time in India and the opportunity to teach an incredible group of students. I was recently selected as a 2018–19 Fulbright Ambassador, which means it's my job to spread the word about the Fulbright program. If you or someone you know is interested in teaching or researching abroad, please reach out to me, as I'd love to talk to you about the program. I live in New York and in June I'll begin a one-year fellowship with the Work First Foundation, an organization devoted to searching for ways to pioneer solutions to poverty alleviation."



Yixin Sun '16, Manny Tamargo SEAS'16, Brandon Martinez '16 and Ben Xue '14 completed the Chicago Triathlon.



John Jay 7ers Adam Lieber '17, Meric Atesalp SEAS'17, Ethan Wu '17, Madeleine Steinberg '17 and Carl Yin '17 hanging out post-graduation.

2017

REUNION 2018
MAY 31–JUNE 2
Events and Programs Contact
ccaa-events@columbia.edu
Development Contact
ccfund@columbia.edu

Carl Yin
carl.yin@columbia.edu

Wishing our class a happy spring! Here are some updates:

Jacqueline Chulya played on Columbia's varsity golf team for four years and last October turned professional and is now playing full-time. In Siem Reap, Cambodia, also last October, Jacqueline won her first pro tournament, the Ladies European Tour Qualifying Stage I. In November, she earned a full membership for the Taiwan LPGA 2018. She will play in the Ladies European Tour Access Series, the Taiwan LPGA Tour and the China LPGA this year.

Willie Dong is in his first year at Northwestern, pursuing a Ph.D. in mathematics.

Marina Chan recently returned from a trip that brought her, for the first time, to her origins and roots as a Chinese adoptee. In preparation, she spent the summer after graduation in Middlebury's Chinese language immersion program where, as a beginner, she learned one academic year of Chinese in just two months. Thus prepared to help her family navigate, Marina retraced the steps of her adoption with her parents. Exiting the United States by way of Hawaii, they worked their way from Beijing to Hong Kong, the most emotional stop being Marina's birth city, Hefei, the capital of Anhui Province. There, they visited Marina's orphanage and met with the former deputy director, Mr. Zhao. The intense month in China was followed by a relaxing month in the Land Down Under, where Marina occupied herself equally with exploring Australia's unique flora and fauna (although she has yet to meet a wombat) and learning about aboriginal art and culture and the complex relationship between the indigenous people, those of European descent and Asians. Before heading back to the United States, the family stopped in New Zealand, where Marina found her dream home: Hobbiton of the Shire. Now back in New York, Marina will undertake an internship in the Asia Society's Performing Arts Department while continuing her playwriting and music and exploring opportunities as a member of the Dramatists Guild. Time allowing, she'd also love to get back to dance and acting, all to help further her vision of combining her various arts.

Bianca Guerrero writes, "I can't believe it's already been seven months since I graduated! I am still doing my fellowship and learning from my rookie mistakes (for example, remembering to google names and faces of key stakeholders before meetings so I don't ask the commissioner who they are when I accidentally sit next to them).

"In the past few months, I turned 22 and missed Columbia very much, as a good chunk of my close friends are across the country; caught up with my favorite professor, Roger Lehecka '67, GSAS'74, and supported our mutual mentee, a College first-year, at the Black Theatre Ensemble's performance of *Dreamgirls*; made the long, arduous and hassling trip up to Yonkers, N.Y., with my sophomore year roommate for Thanksgiving and then again with a fellow Truman Scholar for Christmas; and spent the New Year at home, incubating a virus or the flu, which kept me sneezing and sick for the first week of 2018.

"I'm now trying to figure out what will come next after my fellowship ends in May, how to get more involved in the alumni community and how to continue learning informally out of school!"

Julian Nebreda-Bello lives and works in São Paulo, Brazil, for a film production company, Gullane.

Sydney Segal writes, "I traveled solo around Scandinavia until my new lease started in Madrid at the beginning of February. I have accepted a position to teach English for the year, while I study for my LSAT, and I hope to matriculate at the Law School. I made my way around Sweden and Norway, embracing the cold weather that NYC has seasoned me to handle.

"Post-graduation definitely is not the same as college, so I thought I would postpone 'real life' a little bit longer."

obituaries

1937

William W. Ragsdale Jr., retired accountant and professor, Williamsburg, Va., on June 24, 2017. Ragsdale was born March 1, 1915, in Rutherford, N.J. He earned an M.S. in 1947 from the Business School. Ragsdale joined the firm of Pricewaterhouse-Coopers (formerly known as Lybrand Ross Bros. & Montgomery) as a C.P.A. and worked in Birmingham, Ala., and New York City. He became a partner in 1958. Upon retiring from the firm in 1972, he taught accounting at Fairleigh Dickinson, Seton Hall and Monmouth College. In 1987, Ragsdale moved to Williamsburg Landing and sat on various finance committees within the community. He was a member of Williamsburg United Methodist Church and the Crown Colony Club, where he had been president. Ragsdale enjoyed reading, sailing and playing tennis and golf. He was predeceased by a brother, John Perrin Ragsdale, and his wife of 73 years, Helen Oswald Ragsdale, and is survived by his daughters, Peggy Peterman and her husband, Ted, Betsy Wright and her husband, Charlie, and Mary Saalfield and her husband, John; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

1945

Charles M. Greenwald, retired radiologist, Olmsted Falls, Ohio, on June 21, 2017. Greenwald, a 1948 alumnus of P&S, was a Renaissance man with wide-ranging interests. In addition to professional organizations, he devoted time and energy to activities supporting theater, music, science and education in his community. Born in Queens, N.Y., Greenwald was a lieutenant in the Navy Medical Corps, completing training in radiology at the Cleveland Clinic. In 1961 he was founding director of the Department of Radiology at Parma Community General Hospital for 25 years. Greenwald began and was the director of the School of Radiologic Technology. He was assistant clinical professor for Case Western Reserve University and was a fellow of the American College of Radiology, councilor for the Ohio chapter and president of the Ohio State Radiological Society. A lifelong passionate learner, his travels touched all seven continents with trips focusing on wildlife and early civilizations. Greenwald's passion for bones continued in retirement with work at the Cleveland Museum of National History in the Physical Anthropology Department. He coauthored several papers and journal articles during his retirement years. A Rotarian, Greenwald was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow for his service and 50 years of perfect attendance. He was married to Margaret (née Paschall) for 60 years.

1951

Robert H. Flynn, retired teacher and banker, Manhasset, N.Y., on February 20, 2018. Flynn was born in Astoria, Queens. At the College, he studied music under Vladimir Ussachevsky and English under Mark Van Doren GSAS'21. Flynn earned a degree from Teachers College and attended Middlebury's Bread Loaf School of English. He taught English in the Levittown school system and at Great Neck North Senior H.S. Transitioning to finance and banking, he wrote speeches, annual report letters and press releases for politicians and CEOs. Flynn later became an account executive at private banking firm Brown Brothers Harriman, where he spent the bulk of his career. He was a regular attendee of Dean's Days, reunions, football games, receptions and concerts on campus. Such was his enthusiasm that his children heard lectures by Karl-Ludwig Selig, Edward Said and Pellegrino D'Acierno '65, GSAS'73 while in high school. Though a banker and investment counselor by day, Flynn's calling was as an amateur, mostly autodidactic etymologist. If it is accepted that etymology, the Brooklyn Dodgers, the New York Mets, composer Charles Ives, 19th-century Russian composers and daylily cultivation are fields of intellectual inquiry, then Flynn was a polymath. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Margaret; brother, Donald; children, Maura Arcidiacono, Christopher '80, Hill and Geoffrey; and nine grandchildren, including Julia Flynn Chinniah GS'16.

1959

William U. Bridge, retired USPS clerk, Yonkers, N.Y., on May 29, 2017. Bridge was born on April 16, 1932, in Mt. Vernon, N.Y. A lifelong Yonkers resident, he served in the Army during the Korean War (1952–54) and was honorably discharged at the rank of corporal. He then attended the College. Bridge married Janet Hook on July 14, 1983. She survives him, as do his children, Andronica Meade and her husband, Donald, and Natalia Hook and her husband, Robert Terracuso; and four grandchildren.

1966

Natale M. Ceglio Jr., physicist, Pleasanton, Calif., on July 2, 2017. Ceglio earned an M.S. and a Ph.D. in nuclear science and engineering from MIT after a B.S. in applied physics from Columbia Engineering in 1967 and a B.A. in physics from the College. He was a physicist by training and became an authority in the fields of plasma physics, lasers, optics and extreme ultraviolet lithography. Ceglio began his career at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 1976. After 20 years there, he set his sights on Silicon Valley, where he held several top management positions. Ceglio was the recipient of 11 R&D 100 Awards, more than any other individual worldwide. He was also the recipient of the Department of Energy's Award of Excellence and was awarded multiple patents in optics, microscopy, lithography, particle beams, sputter deposition, information storage and wafer inspection. Ceglio was a Vietnam veteran who proudly served as a lieutenant in the Navy. He was a tennis enthusiast, and also enjoyed downhill skiing, movies, music and working. His latest endeavor was authoring a comic book featuring "Jonathan Safer," who was going to make the world a safer place. He also loved animals, including his cat, Alexa. Survivors include his wife of 28 years, Kelly Montgomery; sister, Marietta Kinane; brothers, Michael and his wife, Sara, and Chris and his wife, Amy; in-laws, Kathy and Kerm Montgomery; and nieces and nephews.

1969

William R. "Max" Carey Jr., marketing and sales consulting executive, Marietta, Ga., on May 24, 2017. Raised in Allendale, N.J., Carey attended Columbia on an NROTC scholarship. A three-year letter winner in football, he was an "All-Ivy League" defensive halfback in 1968 and set an NCAA record for career kick-off returns in 1969. Carey entered the Navy in July 1969 and rose to the rank of lieutenant over a seven-year career that included flying 100 missions over North Vietnam, completing more than 300 carrier landings and becoming one of the few elite fighter pilots to achieve Top Gun certification. In 1981, Carey founded Corporate Resource Development, a marketing and sales consulting firm. Carey wrote a book, *The Superman Complex: Achieving the Balance That Leads to True Success* (1998). In 2000, he was a recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award. Carey is survived by his wife of 45 years, Susan (née Estes); daughters, Elise Kelso '98 and her husband, Bryan, and Caroline Zuniga and her husband, Jacob; son, William R. "Billy" III '03, BUS'11 and his wife, Laura; brothers, Christopher and Michael; and six grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

— Lisa Palladino

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 4th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that CCT receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

1939 **David W. Mason,** retired teacher and camp owner, Fryeburg, Maine, on September 15, 2017.

1941 **Erwin V. Alpert,** retired store manager, New Haven, Conn., on January 28, 2018.

1942 **Elbert C. Mead Jr.,** retired bank controller, New Bern, N.C., on October 10, 2017.

1945 **Julian B. Hyman,** retired physician, Hackensack, N.J., on October 13, 2017.

1946 **James W. Gell,** ob/gyn, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., on February 2, 2018.

Robert Greiff, retired, Princeton, N.J., on January 15, 2018.

1948 **Robert K. Haupt,** Cincinnati, on August 16, 2017.

Kenneth R. Williams, retired research scientist, Kennett Square, Pa., on November 4, 2017.

1949 **Campbell R. Geeslin,** retired editor, White Plains, N.Y., on August 30, 2017.

1951 **Bruno J. Giletti,** retired professor, Oakland, Calif., on January 29, 2018.

1952 **Philip Bloom,** retired judge, Miami Beach, Fla., on January 4, 2018.

Alan L. Stein, financial executive, San Francisco, on February 11, 2018.

1953 **Richard M. Phillips,** Tiburon, Calif., on September 12, 2017.

Ronald Schaffer, retired professor of history and military historian, Los Angeles, on September 1, 2017.

1954 **Herbert H. Frommer,** dentist, New York City and Westhampton, N.Y., on February 1, 2018.

Herbert G. Hagerty, retired Foreign Service officer, Washington, D.C., on December 7, 2017.

Keith E. Krebs, Walla Walla, Wash., on October 11, 2017.

Eric Salzman, composer and former music critic, Brooklyn, N.Y., and East Quogue, N.Y., on November 12, 2017.

1956 **Jerry A. Fodor,** philosopher and professor, New York City, on November 29, 2017.

Carl W. Norden, retired physician, Philadelphia, on August 26, 2017.

1957 **Saul S. Cohen,** retired, New York City, on January 15, 2018.

Richard D. Gooder, professor, Cambridge, U.K., on October 30, 2017.

Mauro J. Pittaro Jr., engineer, Hoboken, N.J., on August 21, 2017.

Louis P. Rothman, attorney, Delray Beach, Fla., on October 17, 2017.

Elliott S. Schwartz, professor of music emeritus, composer, Brunswick, Maine, on December 7, 2016.

1958 **Richard "Dick" H. Bakalar,** attorney and lecturer, Merrick, N.Y., on July 14, 2017.

Barry Dickman, attorney, Ridgewood, N.J., on January 29, 2018.

Michael O. Lesch, attorney, Larchmont, N.Y., on August 21, 2017.

John J. McGroarty, retired ophthalmologist, Burbank, Calif., on December 22, 2017.

1959 **Kenneth R. Gros Louis,** retired university chancellor, Bloomington, Ill., on October 20, 2017.

Hugh B. McSurely, Canton, Mich., on October 20, 2015.

Richard A. Merrill, professor and dean emeritus, Charlottesville, Va., October 26, 2017.

Bruce M. Stave, professor emeritus, Coventry, Conn., on December 2, 2017.

1960 **Frank A. Siracusa,** Seaford, N.Y., on February 1, 2017.

1961 **Jay T. Carrigan,** Hendersonville, N.C., on August 22, 2015.

Peter King III, Greensboro, N.C., on September 16, 2016.

1962 **Robert A. Kohn,** retired diplomat, Washington, D.C., on December 8, 2017.

Charles C. Rohes, physician, North Petersburg, N.Y., on June 14, 2016.

1964 **Michael L. Barnett,** dental research consultant and retired periodontist, Princeton, N.J., on November 22, 2017.

1965 **Jeffrey L. Bell,** conservative theorist, politician and consultant, Annandale, Va., on February 10, 2018.

William L. Weinstock, retired attorney, Brooklyn, N.Y., on June 12, 2017.

1967 **Richard H. Bullen Jr.,** financial services system designer, Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., on February 3, 2018.

1969 **Jeffrey M. Sydney,** attorney, La Quinta, Calif., on January 18, 2018.

1971 **Elliot S. Frank,** retired computer scientist, Las Vegas, on October 14, 2017.

1977 **J. Douglas Newman,** financial executive, Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., on October 7, 2017.

1984 **Anthony E. Kaye,** history professor and writer, Chapel Hill, N.C., on May 14, 2017.

1987 **Gary L. Rempe II,** entrepreneur, Albuquerque, N.M., on September 24, 2017.

1993 **Rachel M. Mintz,** photographer and artist, New York City, on January 10, 2018.

the*last*word

'43 Reverie

In anticipation of their 75th reunion, ***Dr. G.J. "Dan" D'Angio '43*** *and* ***Bernie Weisberger '43*** *spoke with* CCT *about the College of their youth. D'Angio has spent his medical career battling childhood cancer, developing major innovations in radiation and chemotherapy treatments. He also was president of the International Society of Pediatric Oncology and has received numerous accolades for his life-saving work. Historian and author Weisberger has taught at a number of colleges, including Swarthmore, Vassar and the University of Chicago; he has authored more than a dozen books on topics ranging from the 1906 Cubs-White Sox World Series to the presidential election of 1800 to a biography of the founder of General Motors. The two have developed a friendship through their correspondence in Class Notes and look forward to reuniting on campus this summer at their reunion.*



JORGE JIMENEZ

Columbia College Today: **What was your experience at the College like?**

Dr. G.J. "Dan" D'Angio '43: It was a complete change from high school, but I think I fit in almost immediately because my brother [Carl D'Angio '41] was there; I was following along behind him and he was my guide. What I remember is that we were wearing jackets and neckties in those days.

Bernie Weisberger '43: You're right about the formal dress; we wore jackets, ties and beanies and had classes that started at 8 a.m. The first teacher to make a big impression on me was Monsieur Clamens — I was taking elementary French — and he was always dressed to the nines, very dapper and very formal; it was a totally different experience from having a high school teacher. My overpowering memory of those years was that they were dominated by the war. We '43ers entered in September 1939, just when the war was declared. For the first semester there was talk that it was a "phony war" and it made no impression on us — but then in the second semester, spring 1940, the Germans occupied Norway, Sweden and France. After that it was nothing but daily headlines of war. I had a sense that we were going to be in it sooner or later.

There was also a heady feeling of entering a very new world, which partly frightened me and partly elated me. A feeling of being on your own, of being an adult and of being introduced to a dazzling world of learning. For me it was because of two freshman courses — one was Humanities A and the second was the social science course, I can't remember the name of it. Suddenly we were reading books at a level I had never read before — Greek plays, Plato, political classics like *The Republic*. Even now, I'm grateful for that first introductory year.

D'Angio: I tried to get involved with sports. I had been a fencer in high school, so I joined the fencing team and the rifle team, and I became coxswain on the lightweight crew team. All of that broadened the learning experience; I tried to do that because it was so easy to lose ourselves in all of the demands of the academic year. Incidentally, I look back on the first two years with tremendous admiration and fondness, but as far as

our teachings were concerned, the world ended in Athens — we learned zero about the Indian subcontinent, the Far East, or Chinese and Japanese literature. My class was completely ignorant of that and to a certain extent I've had to teach myself.

Weisberger: Can I jump in on that comment? Now I remember the name of the other basic freshman course — it was Western Civilization. The assumption was that it was the only one. Although, because Columbia had some graduate programs in Asian cultures it meant that when Pearl Harbor occurred they could offer a freshman Japanese course. I was able to enroll in that and start on my military career as a Japanese translator. But it's true, the world revolved around several European capitals.

***CCT:* What sort of changes have you seen to the campus?**

D'Angio: The playing field was still there in front of Butler Library. Isn't that right, Bernie?

Weisberger: I do indeed remember South Field, and I remember hearing the story that they played baseball there and that Lou Gehrig [Class of 1923] once hit a homerun that went all the way up the steps of Low Library.

D'Angio: And of course, 116th was still a street, so cars were running [through campus]. There have been some major physical changes since we were there, but fundamentally the quad is the same and all the rest are very much part of the scenery.

Weisberger: The other great divide was Broadway, which separated us from the Barnard campus. I only occasionally crossed that for social events. It was like a great wall.

D'Angio: I had some of the Barnard ladies in my fine arts class, so there was exchange at that time but not a lot of activity — the College certainly wasn't coed; it was very much a male place.

***CCT:* Tell us more about how WWII affected life at the College.**

Weisberger: It changed it considerably. Once Pearl Harbor occurred, right before the spring of my junior year, the Columbia campus became the scene of a V7 program to train deck officers. The campus was filled with students in Navy uniforms marching hither and thither. I did take two regular courses, but most of my studying efforts became focused on learning elementary Japanese. I was only on campus for three years but the faculty kindly gave you academic credit if you were in the armed services, and that enabled me to show up at Commencement in June '43. I was stationed in Washington, D.C., and came to New York on a weekend pass. Dan, you were in the medical program, right?

D'Angio: That's right, I was pre-med. Up until December 1941 we were just chugging along. I had exercised what was called the "professional option" so I could leave Columbia at the end of my third year, so I did that and went on to medical school. I spent very little time on the Columbia campus during the actual war years.

Weisberger: The war didn't change the academic courses; they were still taught as if nothing was happening. I would go from reading the morning headlines about the fall of France to Professor [Jacques] Barzun ['27, GSAS'32]'s class, where we would talk about 19th-century literature. It was an odd transition between the real world and the world of scholarship. I always say the first two years of courses were my education and the rest were just add-ons.

D'Angio: Thinking back on it, we students were all shoulder to shoulder. There were no protests. There were, of course, people who avoided the draft, but there were no student protests against the war because the war had been foisted on us, unlike during the Vietnam years and the Korean War when the country was electively engaging in combat. The solidarity of the public and the students behind the government [during WWII] was palpable. There was also the bulwark that President Roosevelt provided. He and his team were there, and I for one believed they would pull us through.

***CCT:* Do you remember your dean?**

D'Angio: Dean Hawkes!

Weisberger: Yes, Herbert Hawkes! He was a very well dressed and neat-looking man, and I remember that when we assembled the first Monday after Pearl Harbor he gave us a talk that sounded a little elitist but was actually very accurate. He said, 'Don't rush off and join the infantry; the Army will have need of various specialized talents that you're developing here.' He said, 'Keep your nether garments *in situ*!,' which translates as 'Keep your pants on!' That's my major memory of Dean Hawkes!

***CCT:* Is there anything else you want to share?**

Weisberger: With all the seriousness we've been talking about, I remember having a lot of fun. There was the tug of war between the freshman and sophomore classes — the losers were dragged through the stream of a hose. Unfortunately, I was on the losing team both years!

D'Angio: I would add my memory of getting on the subway and going up to Baker Field with the crew; we would finish a class and go to 215th Street and get in a boat and go out on the water. During the season we actually lived at Baker Field. That was a big boon to not have to pay the dormitory fee! We got up in the morning, got back on the subway to head down for classes and then repeated that throughout the season. It gave another dimension to the college experience for me, and I certainly enjoyed it. Thinking back on it, I was kind of stupid — I never really took advantage of the fact that we were in New York City. I never went to a Broadway show, I never went to the Metropolitan Museum as a student. The campus enveloped us. For me, it was invisible boundaries — I just didn't particularly want to go beyond the campus; I had enough to do there.

Weisberger: I lived off-campus, so I remember arriving at campus in the morning and leaving around 3:30. It was a great experience, but it's always great to be young if you're lucky.

***CCT:* We're looking forward to seeing you both at reunion!**

D'Angio: We're looking forward to reunion — we'll be there if we have two legs that function!

CCT ONLINE

GET THE LATEST

college.columbia.edu/cct

COLUMBIA SUMMER
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK



LET'S MAKE PLANS THIS SUMMER

This summer, advance your academic and professional goals. Take a course, or two, earn a certificate or certification of professional achievement to advance your career, apply for graduate school, or just pursue an area of interest.

SUMMER.SPS.COLUMBIA.EDU

Summer Sessions Registration Begins February 26th

Session 1: May 21–June 29 | Session 2: July 2–August 10

EMAIL A SUMMER SESSIONS ADVISOR
summersessions@columbia.edu

CCT | Columbia College Today

Columbia University
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 724
Burl. VT 05401

EVERY GIFT TO THE COLLEGE

makes an immediate difference on campus. From mentoring initiatives and the Core Curriculum, to global internships and scholarships, your gift to the College Fund supports the greatest undergraduate experience there is.





"GIVING BACK TO COLUMBIA is a small way for me to show my appreciation for everything Columbia gave me: a vibrant college experience, lifelong friends, and a community that inspires me to pursue my passions and ambitions."

— Ariana Mason CC'08

COLUMBIA COLLEGE FUND

CORE TO COMMENCEMENT
COLUMBIA COLLEGE

To make your gift visit college.givenow.columbia.edu.

CCT

Columbia College Today

Summer 2018

"THE LATEST" TURNS ONE

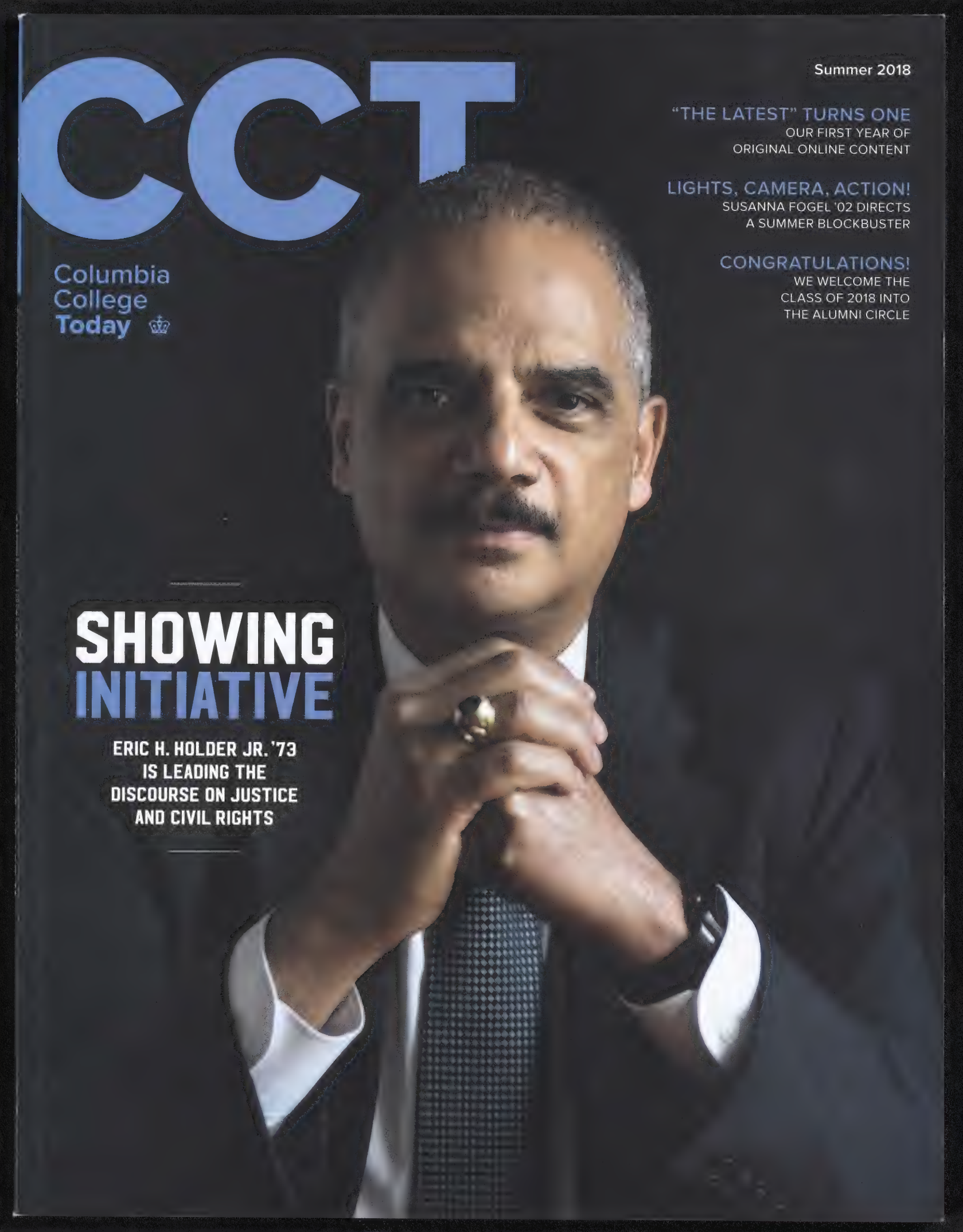
OUR FIRST YEAR OF ORIGINAL ONLINE CONTENT

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!

SUSANNA FOGEL '02 DIRECTS A SUMMER BLOCKBUSTER

CONGRATULATIONS!

WE WELCOME THE CLASS OF 2018 INTO THE ALUMNI CIRCLE



SHOWING INITIATIVE

ERIC H. HOLDER JR. '73 IS LEADING THE DISCOURSE ON JUSTICE AND CIVIL RIGHTS



CORE TO COMMENCEMENT

COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Nearly 100 years ago, Columbia College altered the landscape of American higher education with a pioneering experiment now known as the Core Curriculum.

Today, the Core to Commencement campaign — the College's first-ever — seeks to create other life-altering experiences for our students and the faculty who teach them. Join us in the next phase of this ambitious endeavor to make Columbia College the greatest undergraduate experience possible — one that we will all take pride in.

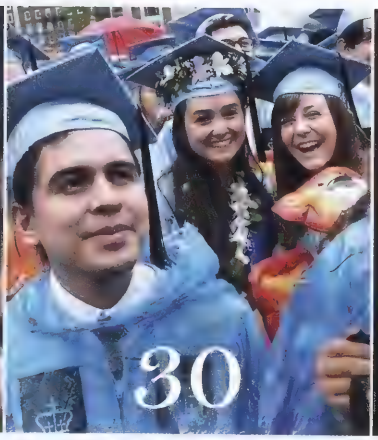
- The Core at 100
- Wellness and Community
- Beyond the Classroom
- Teaching and Mentoring
- Access and Support

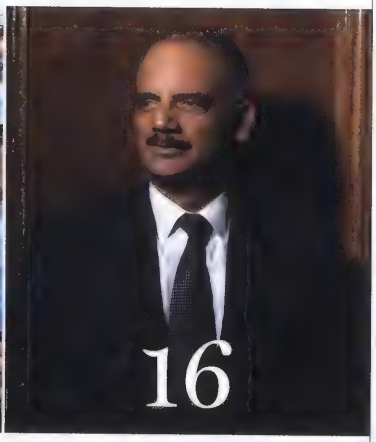
college.columbia.edu/campaign

collegecampaign@columbia.edu

Contents







features

16

True Blue

Eric H. Holder Jr. '73, LAW'76 leads a social justice initiative he calls "a love letter" to the College and the country.

By Jill C. Shomer

20

"The Latest" Turns One!

Selections from our first year of original digital content.

26

In the Director's Chair

Susanna Fogel '02 makes a summer blockbuster her way.

By Phil Wallace '04

30

Graduation 2018

Caps, gowns, lions — check! Columbia's newest alumni are welcomed with speeches, interviews and more.

Cover: Photograph by Rayon Richards

CCT | Columbia College Today

VOLUME 45 NUMBER 4
SUMMER 2018

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Alexis Boncy SOA'11

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Lisa Palladino

DEPUTY EDITOR
Jill C. Shomer

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Anne-Ryan Heatwole JRN'09

FORUM EDITOR
Rose Kernochan BC'82

ART DIRECTOR
Eson Chan

Published quarterly by the Columbia College Office of Alumni Affairs and Development for alumni, students, faculty, parents and friends of Columbia College.

ASSOCIATE DEAN, COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS
Bernice Tsai '96

ADDRESS
Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 4th Fl.
New York, NY 10025

PHONE
212-851-7852

EMAIL
cct@columbia.edu

WEB
college.columbia.edu/cct

ISSN 0572-7820

Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not reflect official positions of Columbia College or Columbia University.

© 2018 Columbia College Today
All rights reserved.

MIX
Paper from responsible sources
FSC® C022085

Contents

departments

3 Message from Dean James J. Valentini
This year's Class Day message introduces a framework for reflection.

4 Letters to the Editor

6 The Big Picture

8 Around the Quads
My Columbia College Journey encourages students to think holistically about their personal development.

13 Roar, Lion, Roar
The Lions reclaim their place among the nation's elite fencing programs.

34 Columbia Forum: *The King Is Always Above the People* by Daniel Alarcón '99
Ten short stories explore gritty themes.

*alumni*news

38 Message from CCAA President Michael Behringer '89
Encouraging student-alumni connections.

39 Lions
Steven Waldman '84; Andrea Young '06, GSAS'12; plus other alumni newsmakers.

42 Bookshelf
Feast: True Love in and out of the Kitchen, by Hannah Howard '09.

44 Class Notes
Just Married!

83 Obituaries
Steven P. Marcus '48, GSAS'61; Lawrence K. Grossman '52

88 The Last Word
The Class of 2018's president says goodbye to the College.

Now on CCT Online

PRINT EXTRAS

- Reunion 2018 Facebook albums
- Graduation 2018 Facebook albums
- Academic Awards and Prizes

Like Columbia College Alumni
facebook.com/alumnicc

View Columbia College alumni photos
instagram.com/alumniofcolumbiacollege

Follow **@Columbia_CCAA**

Join the Columbia College alumni network
college.columbia.edu/alumni/linkedin

college.columbia.edu/cct

THE LATEST

TAKE FIVE | APRIL 20

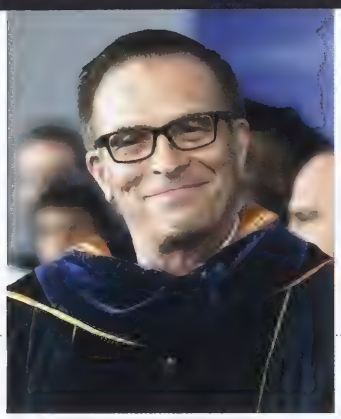
"Anyone who met me in the first few weeks will tell you that I was agonizingly loud and annoying. ... Thankfully it didn't take me too long to recognize that at Columbia everyone had something marvelously interesting to share about themselves, and that I would gain a lot more by just shutting up and listening."

— Aspiring attorney **Ankeet Ball '16**

THINK TANK | MAY 31

"I was working at McDonald's in my hometown of Needham, Mass. I wanted to be an intern at the *Needham Times*. I cold-called the editor-in-chief, and she said no. Then I just walked into her office and handed her my clips from *Spectator*. She said no. ... I visited her a second time. This time she said yes. She said she always did that with job applicants — said no before she said yes — because tenacity is an important trait for journalists. She was right!"

— CNN correspondent **Elizabeth Schwartz Cohen '87,** from "What Do You Remember Most About Your First Summer Job?"



Message from the Dean

In Pursuit of "Eudaimonia"

At Class Day on May 15, I spoke about My Columbia College Journey, a recently introduced framework for students to reflect on their growth and experiences during their time at the College. [Read more about the Journey on page 8.] What follows is an abridged version of my speech. To our most recent graduates, who now receive Columbia College Today, *congratulations again, and welcome to the community of more than 51,000 Columbia College alumni.*



PHOTOS BY EILEEN BARROSO

I said to you at Convocation 2014 that what you did from that day forward would define your Columbia College experience and bring you here to Class Day. Each of you brought a special personal story, a story of the path by which you arrived at Columbia. You were then at the beginning of your Columbia College journey.

I am sure you have had days of jubilation — perhaps not as great as today — but still, days of triumph. But I am also sure you have experienced setbacks, and you have had to pivot in response. And you have found that the path may not always be straight and predictable, but that it can lead to success in ways that, though not at all predictable, are no less satisfying.

During these days at Columbia College you not only gained knowledge, but also developed critical thinking and research abilities; refined your written and oral communication skills; improved your quantitative, information and technological literacy; engaged in teamwork and collaboration; expanded your creativity and innovation; took on civic and individual responsibility; participated in community engagement and inclusion; built global awareness; and encouraged all of us to foster a sense of wellness and resilience. In short, you developed your Core Competencies, even before you knew that phrase or could name its components.

While the narrative of "My Columbia College Journey" was introduced to you only a month ago, you were on your very own individual Columbia College Journey from the moment you arrived here, without realizing it. What has changed is the self-awareness of that journey, a self-awareness that you will have many years to benefit from.

The word "journey" derives from the Latin *diurnus,* meaning day by day or daily. And though you are graduating, it is still your Columbia College journey, because Columbia College is now a fundamental part of you, and your experience here will forever influence your path. The road goes on, paved with Pantone 292 and all that that color represents.

"Jubilation" derives from Latin as well, and refers to a very vocal kind of joy, with wild and loud shouting of great enthusiasm, loud shouting I am certain I am going to hear at this ceremony. Every day, however, can't be like this one; every day can't be cause for loud shouting of great joy. But, every day can be a source of satisfaction and fulfillment and meaning. You will notice I did not say "happiness." I did not, because happiness is not the object to pursue. You know that, and you know what is to be pursued, because it is part of the Core Curriculum experience of every student. It is eudaimonia.

Eudaimonia is to be found when you plot your own trajectory, when you build on what you have learned here to be active and engaged citizens, responsible and valuable members of the many communities — personal and professional, large and small — of which you will be part.

Eudaimonia means much more than simply faring well or being successful, the outcomes with which "happiness" is associated. Eudaimonia is the essence of My Columbia College Journey: a personal, individual, unique path to flourishing, substance and meaning in life.

Many things will interfere with, even preclude, the simple thing called "happiness" — events you can't influence and people you can't persuade. But the eudaimonia of your journey is indeed yours, so focus on it.

We admitted you to Columbia College based on our belief that you were the applicants who could best profit from and contribute to Columbia College. I hope you have profited from your experience at the College. I know you have contributed to it, in classrooms, arenas, laboratories, residence halls and even on Low Beach. For all of that I thank you. All of us at Columbia College thank you.

CCT Print Extras

To view Valentini's Class Day speech in full, go to college.columbia.edu/cct.



James J. Valentini
Dean

Letters to the Editor



BARNEY EDMONDS GS'67, SOA'69

An Overdue Apology

For whatever it is worth so many years later, *CCT* readers might be interested to know that I was given an apology from a NYPD official regarding police behavior in clearing the "occupied" campus areas and buildings that haunting night in 1968.

As a student back then in search of statistics to support an expository writing assignment about the 1968 Columbia riots, for Professor Michael Rosenthal GSAS'67's English class, I went downtown to police headquarters. I was directed to the private office of Benjamin Ward. I do not recall his rank, but he was "brass." He looked serious. He asked me to close the door and be seated. What he said has stayed with me ever since:

"I do not usually speak with undergraduates," he began, "but no one else from Columbia has come to me about this matter." He went on to apologize for the actions of the police that horrible night. He knew they had been needlessly brutal, beating unconscious and bleeding students. I never mentioned that I was a witness (not a protestor), standing only a few feet away from the harrowing confrontation on College Walk. He asked me to take his message back to campus. He wanted Columbia to know of his contrition and apology on behalf of the NYPD, and in particular its TPF [Tactical Police Force], who had taped over or removed their shields to conceal their identities and used brass knuckles and weighted clubs to beat dozens of unarmed students.

I left in stunned silence with the statistics I requested. My paper was due the next day. Then there were final exams. Then there was moving out at the end of the academic year. I had intended to go to *Spectator*'s office and share my story, but I never did. Time got away. And then I rationalized that it was all water under the bridge anyhow.

Ward has since died. I looked him up recently. Evidently, he was well respected in the NYPD. In light of *CCT*'s 50th anniversary articles on the subject, I thought his memory and his apology ought to be recognized, even if a half-century late.

John Kantor '71
Westport, Conn.

Left of Center

Paul Starr '70, in his piece "How the '68 Uprising Looks Today" [Spring 2018], concludes rightly that the University needs to be an open forum, facilitating, as he puts it, more "antagonistic confrontation," which may come at the expense of "safe space." But I take issue with at least one of his statements in arriving at that conclusion. Starr suggests that liberalism was under attack from the left in '68 and now is from the right. I fail to see how liberalism is now under attack from the right when that is precisely the people whose voices are being suppressed on campus. Rather, a more fundamental and relevant change is that the "center," if you will — the establishment of the academy — has itself shifted far left since '68 and more closely aligned with its students. As a result, I would suggest liberalism, and in turn the University, is now most under attack from itself.

The '68 uprising might have been a catalyst for embracing certain substantive messages of the activists of '68, but it was perhaps also a catalyst for shifting the center of the University further left. In so doing, the academy has not only shifted the spectrum of viewpoints to be found on campus but has tolerated both an intolerance of other viewpoints, and the disobedience targeting those expressing them, in ways that Martin Luther King Jr. would not have tolerated. This silencing is attributable to the University itself, failing students who are left unprepared for a world that doesn't always have safe spaces.

Joshua Tenzer '01
Englewood, N.J.

"Liberation Classes"

CCT's coverage of the 50th anniversary of the 1968 protests (Spring 2018, "50 Years Later") neglected to mention something important: During the student strike, classes went on. Columbia professors and their students kept on meeting to read, think and talk. My classmate Alan Sullivan '69 gives a good description of one of these "liberation classes" in the 1969 Class Notes in the same issue, and I remember meeting in Professor Howard Porter's apartment to read Lucretius with Professor Steele Commager. Bulletin boards near the Sundial announced times and locations.

For perhaps the last time since the Middle Ages, the *universitas* — the corporate

body of students and teachers — removed itself from administrative control and migrated in a body to carry on its essential work. Do today's students and their professors have the same sense that reading and thinking about Matthew Arnold or Lucretius can be as important and radical as protests and petitions?

Lee T. Pearcy '69
Merion Station, Pa.

First Impressions

Jamie Katz '72, BUS'80's article in the Spring 2018 issue on the events of the Spring '68 student uprising at Columbia ["A Tinderbox, Poised To Ignite"] was well written and very informative. I was unaware of the extent of the role of the Students' Afro-American Society and its disciplined confrontation of the University administration, especially with respect to the proposed gym to be built on part of Morningside Park.

Reading the details of the gym opposition reminded me of an experience I had during Freshman Week in fall 1952. When I arrived on campus, the first classmate I met that day, during the initial freshman processing activity, was Gordon Osmond '56. After finishing the process, he and I decided to explore the campus and walked to the president's residence on Morningside Drive to look around. As we arrived, University President Dwight D. Eisenhower's wife, Mamie, came out of the house to enter her limousine. She saw us, and graciously said hello and welcomed us to Columbia.

After the limo drove away, we decided to cross the street and look at Morningside Park. After gazing across the park to West Harlem, we looked down at the park at the bottom of the cliff. There we saw a black man, spread-eagled, facing the stone wall of the cliff, while being searched by a white NYC policeman.

Welcome to Morningside Heights.

Jerome Breslow '56
Potomac, Md.

'68's Collateral Damage

You cannot report accurately on the impact of the 1968 riots at Columbia without underscoring their impact on hundreds of Columbia students who lost their educational opportunities because of the short-sighted, irresponsible acts of those rioters who took over the campus and seized the president's office. It was the symbol of ultimate arrogance when *The New York Times* featured on page 1 a photo of Mark Rudd '69 sitting behind President Grayson Kirk's desk, smoking one of his expensive cigars.

In the wake of all that happened, Columbia eliminated 80 full, four-year NROTC scholarships that provided tuition, room, board, uniforms, an allowance for meals and a Navy commission upon graduation. From then on hundreds of students were denied a Columbia education.

Without NROTC, I would have had no way of obtaining a college education. My scholarship and a superb Columbia liberal arts education changed my life. Commissioned in 1956, I served mostly in the Pacific, returned to California and began my career in the newspaper business. In late 1968, I was tapped by then-Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird to serve as deputy assistant secretary of defense on the Laird-Packard team. One of our first acts was to eliminate NROTC programs at universities like Columbia that could not assure protection of academic freedoms for those who chose to follow the NROTC program. We simply took the ROTC scholarship business elsewhere, to areas of the country where the program was welcomed, nurtured and served as the source of outstanding, well-educated leaders for our nation.

Everyone lost because of damage done by the rioters and by a University administration that lacked the courage to stand up for the rights of all.

Dick Capen '56
La Jolla, Calif.

Editor's note: The NROTC program is again in operation at Columbia, having been reinstated under an agreement signed in May 2011; see college.columbia.edu/cct/archive/fall11/around_the_quads3.

Thank You for the Music

I just finished reading, with great pleasure and fondness, "Here's to You, Mr. Garfunkel" ["Columbia Forum"] in the Spring 2018 issue; it included an excerpt from Art Garfunkel '65's new autobiography, *What Is It All but Luminous: Notes from an Underground Man.* I was a schoolmate of Art's at the College, but unfortunately I never met him.

I "met" him a few years later, in 1968, when I went to the Jayhawk Theatre in Topeka, Kans., the town where I grew up, to see *The Graduate.* I remember exactly where I sat alone in the balcony. I could not help but identify with Dustin Hoffman's character, and I became engrossed in his dilemma. But while watching the movie, something happened to me that had never happened before, nor was to happen to me again: I slowly became mesmerized by the movie's music. The songs were transcendent: "The Sound of Silence," "Mrs. Robinson," "Scarborough Fair," "April Come She Will." I had never heard songs that beautiful, and though I will soon be 74, I don't think I have ever since heard songs more beautiful.

I had danced to the sound of The Beatles in front of Ferris Booth Hall, but in time, and forever after, I came to the realization that no other musical group could ever equal Simon and Garfunkel. The tragedy, of course, is that Paul and Art broke up in 1970. I still listen to their famous 1983 Central Park reunion concert, which drew half a million fans.

Thank you, Art, for making my world forever beautiful with your singing.

Tod Howard Hawks '66
Boulder, Colo.

Correction

Due to an editing error, the wrong Bob Reiss was referenced in "Remembering All the Champions," in the Spring 2018 "Letters to the Editor." Rather than the late Bob Reiss '51, PS'59, it was in fact Bob Reiss '52 who played on the excellent 1950–51 basketball team — and he's alive and well (and in good humor about the mix-up). *CCT* apologizes for the error.

Contact Us

CCT welcomes letters from readers about articles in the magazine but cannot print or personally respond to all letters received. Letters express the views of the writers and not *CCT*, the College or the University. All letters are subject to editing for space, clarity and *CCT* style. Please direct letters for publication "to the editor" via mail or online: **college.columbia.edu/cct/contact-us.**

the Big Picture

REUNION REVELRY

Lion spirits were high at this year's Starlight Celebration on June 2, as 2,500 alumni and guests enjoyed the festivities bathed in Butler's blue glow. Find party pics, class photos and more Reunion 2018 snaps at **facebook.com/alumnicc/photos.**

SCOTT RUDD





Around the Quads



Dinner and discussion at the My Columbia College Journey launch on April 9.

MARYAM HASSAN '20

"My Columbia College Journey" Encourages Holistic View of Students' Development

From Dante's travels through the afterlife to Odysseus' post-war wanderings, Columbia College students are no strangers to contemplating the journeys that take place in literature's essential works.

Now they're being asked to consider one closer to home: their own.

That's the goal of My Columbia College Journey, a new initiative that encourages undergraduates to reflect on their life at the College — and beyond — in real time. It advocates taking a holistic view of personal development rather than defining oneself in academic terms. This more rounded view encompasses what's learned in the classroom (while deemphasizing grades and transcripts, or the urge to overly identify with a major), taking into account the lessons and influences of extracurriculars, residential life, internships, research, community engagement and more.

Ultimately the Journey aims to help students be more aware of their skills, their interests and how they want to grow; make thoughtful decisions about their academic and co-curricular life; and understand and articulate the many ways the College shapes them.

"The Journey encourages you to see the interconnectedness of your experiences for the very first time, to examine all the possibilities your mind can envision and to ask yourself questions that will focus on the process — not just the outcome," Dean James J. Valentini said to the nearly 300 students who attended the Journey launch on April 9. Held in Low Rotunda, it featured discussion and a family-style dinner with staff and faculty members.

The Journey has been more than three years in the making, having grown out of faculty conversations by the Committee on Instruction during the 2015–16 academic year. It is grounded in a set of 13 "Core Competencies," which are focal points for reflection and provide a shared language for the entire College community to talk about their journeys. The competencies are civic and individual responsibility; community engagement and inclusion; creativity and innovation; critical thinking; global awareness; information and technological literacy; knowledge; oral communication; teamwork and collaboration; research; quantitative literacy; wellness and resilience; and written communication.

While the initiative does not have any required elements, students are encouraged to share their stories on the My Columbia College Journey website (college.columbia.edu/journey), which offers questions to promote reflection about each of the competencies and helps students find an advisor to help with the process.

"Not all of what you learn is in class," said Dustin Rubenstein, associate professor of ecology, evolution and environmental biology, at the launch. "It's important for you to challenge yourself and get outside your comfort zone."

College Expands Core to Commencement Campaign

Columbia College has announced the expansion of Core to Commencement, the first-ever fundraising and engagement campaign dedicated exclusively to the College. The next phase embraces five priority areas for support — including teaching and mentoring, and wellness and community — with an increased total goal of $750 million.

More than 35,000 donors have contributed $422 million since the campaign launched in November 2015 with an original goal of $400 million. In the two and a half years since, the campaign helped establish the Mendelson Center for Undergraduate Business Initiatives and the Eric H. Holder Jr. Initiative for Civil and Political Rights. The former has made business concentrations available to undergraduates; the latter creates a distinctive undergraduate experience that allows students to address issues of inequity and injustice (see cover story, page 16).

In addition, $130 million of the contributions have gone to financial aid, 14 endowed professorships have been established and 1,000 funded experiences for students — from summer internships to humanities fellowships and science experiences — have been secured.

Looking ahead, the priority areas for the next phase of Core to Commencement are:

- The Core at 100: ensuring the Core Curriculum's continued relevance with a focus on faculty engagement, interdisciplinary programming and contributions to the public domain to establish the College as a leader in liberal arts education;
- Beyond the Classroom: giving students hands-on experiences that expand their skills, worldviews and leadership abilities;
- Wellness and Community: supporting and challenging students to develop life skills, well-being and resilience;
- Teaching and Mentoring: attracting the best faculty and involving them in students' lives while supporting their scholarly research; and
- Access and Support: creating access for students most able to fully enjoy the potential of a College education and creating a vibrant and diverse student culture

For more information, go to college.columbia.edu/campaign.



Silver Stars!

Our Fall 2017 cover story, "Star Power," by Yelena Shuster '09, won a Silver Award for feature writing from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Reporting on Brandon Victor Dixon '03's whirlwind of political fame impressed CASE judges: " … that unexpected twist elevated this story beyond a run-of-the-mill profile."

The CASE Circle of Excellence awards honor outstanding work in advancement services, alumni relations, communications, fundraising and marketing at colleges, universities, independent schools and affiliated nonprofits. This year, almost 350 awards were given to more than 190 institutions. Read the winning feature now at college.columbia.edu/cct/issue/fall17.



LIFETOUCH / DENIS GOSTEV

A Toast to the Class of 2018

On May 1, nearly 900 members of CC'18 enjoyed dinner under a tent on South Lawn to mark their transition from students to alumni. Hosted by the Columbia College Alumni Association, the annual Columbia College Senior Dinner is a beloved tradition for seniors on their last day of classes. The event featured a welcome from Columbia College Student Council President Nathan Rosin '18, as well as remarks from Dean James J. Valentini, Senior Class President John Philippe Avendano '18 and Senior Dinner Co-chairs Vik Kapur '18, Starly Sofia Santos '18 and Charlotte Silk '18.

Carnoy and Lavine Elected Trustee Co-Chairs

On April 18, Lisa Carnoy '89 and Jonathan Lavine '88 were elected as the new co-chairs of the University Board of Trustees. Both come from a finance background and have a long history of service to the College and the University. The two have been friends since they were RAs in Carman.

Carnoy is a leader in global finance and capital markets; she spent 23 years at Bank of America Merrill Lynch and is now the chief financial officer at Alix Partners. She has received a John Jay Award for professional achievement, the College's Alumna Achievement Award and the University's Alumni Medal. Lavine is co-managing partner of investment firm Bain Capital. He has also received a John Jay Award for professional achievement, as well as the Alexander Hamilton Medal, and is chairman emeritus of the Columbia College Board of Visitors.

Says Carnoy, "I could not have a greater honor than to lead Columbia's Board of Trustees, and to do so together with my longtime College friend and dedicated fellow alum Jonathan." Lavine adds, "I could not be prouder to serve as co-chair with my friend Lisa, and to have another unique opportunity to give back to this remarkable institution."



Lisa Carnoy '89



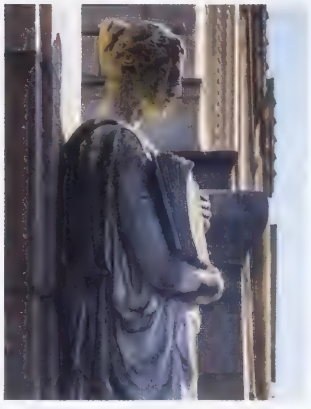
Jonathan Lavine '88

The two will take over in September from outgoing chair Jonathan Schiller '69, LAW'73, who has held the role since 2013.

Did*You*Know?

The Pylons Flanking the 116th Street Gates Were Going To Be a Set of Four

On June 2, 1915, the Class of 1890 presented a gift to the University to mark the occasion of its 25th reunion: the pylon named *Letters* that now graces the right side of the 116th Street Gates at Broadway. From a 1915 issue of *Spectator:* "[Sculptor Charles Keck] has represented *Letters* in the form of a woman holding an open book. ... The first page contains the inscription 'Hic Labor,' while the second page read 'Haec Quies.' When freely translated this means: 'Letters should be the employment of our serious hours as well as of our hours of leisure.'"



SCOTT RUDD

The article continues, "This is the first of a series of four similar pylons, to be placed on the four corners of 116th street between Broadway and Amsterdam. Across the street from *Letters* it is planned to place *Science* to accompany the group of Engineering buildings situated there. On the Hamilton Hall corner *Arts* will be erected, while *Philosophy* will occupy the remaining space. Each of these pylons will cost about $9,000 and will be presented by different classes for their twenty-fifth anniversary gift."

In 1925, the Class of 1900 donated money for *Science* to join *Letters* on Broadway; however, future classes lost interest in completing the quartet (possibly due to the Great Depression and then WWII) and the Amsterdam pylons were never completed.

Faculty Honored for Teaching, Writing

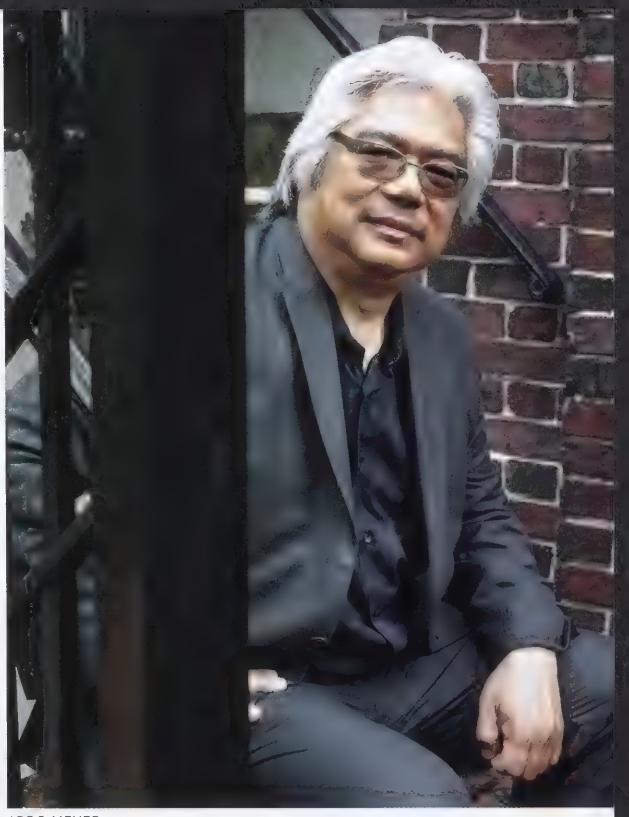
On June 2, the Society of Columbia Graduates and the deans of Columbia College and Columbia Engineering bestowed the annual Great Teacher Awards on Associate Professor of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology **Dustin R. Rubenstein** and Professor of Civil Engineering and Engineering Mechanics **Andrew Smyth.**

The Academic Awards Committee of Columbia College celebrated the student-nominated recipients of the 2018 Lionel Trilling Book Award and Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching at a ceremony on May 2. **Gareth Williams,** the Violin Family Professor of Classics and chair, Department of Classics, was honored with the 43rd annual Lionel Trilling Book Award for his recent book, *Pietro Bembo on Etna: The Ascent of a Venetian Humanist,* chosen by the committee for bringing "illuminating new perspective to another work of literature." **Gauri Viswanathan TC'85,** the Class of 1933 Professor of English and Comparative Literature and director, the South Asia Institute, was honored with the 57th annual Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching "for the unmistakably global scale of her thinking."

On April 11, eight faculty members were honored with Lenfest Awards for exceptional instruction and scholarship. The 2018 recipients are Professor of Religion **Courtney Bender;** Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature **Eleanor Johnson;** the Frank Gallipoli Professor of Modern and Contemporary Art **Branden W. Joseph;** Professor of Biological Sciences and Systems Biology **Molly Przeworski;** Senior Lecturer in the American Language Program **Shelley A. Saltzman** BC'79, TC'97; Associate Professor of History **Neslihan Şenocak;** Associate Professor of Religion **Josef Sorett;** and Professor of History **Marc Van De Mieroop.** Each honoree receives a stipend of $25,000 a year for three years.

the Essentials

Kevin Fellezs



JORG MEYER

Associate Professor of Music Kevin Fellezs says his path to academia began unintentionally. "I just wanted a steady income so I could play jazz at night," he says. While getting his master's in humanities at San Francisco State, Fellezs, who has a joint appointment in the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, "got a taste for scholarship." "I wanted to challenge the way music was taught, particularly music by black Americans," he says. Fellezs, who joined the Columbia faculty in 2012, now teaches frequently wait-listed undergraduate classes including "African-American Music" and "Popular Music and Protest Movements." In early spring, he spoke to *CCT* about defining ethnomusicology, collecting vinyl and his Ph.D. advisor: political activist, academic and author Angela Davis.

FELLEZS GREW UP in a black, working-class neighborhood in San Francisco. "Hayes Valley is now very gentrified, but it used to be projects," he says. His father, a native Hawaiian, was a singer and huge jazz fan; his mother is Japanese. Fellezs started piano lessons at an early age and accompanied his father when he sang. "If you had asked me when I was 5 or 6 who my favorite musician was, I would have yelled: 'Duke Ellington!' So I've been into jazz for a long time."

HE PURSUED BEING a musician and wasn't sure whether he should bother with college. "It was a matter of maturing and realizing that unless you 'make it' as a musician, it's going to be a hard life," he says. "I didn't want to be a bitter old guy, so I went back to school." As an undergrad at San Francisco State, teaching music theory was the extent of his ambitions until he was inspired by a class called "Comparative Cultures in China and Japan." "Instead of the mechanics of music, I wanted to think about the *meaning* of music," he says.

A FAVORITE PROFESSOR, Mary Scott, convinced him to work toward an advanced degree. After he earned his M.A., Scott recommended a Ph.D. program, The History of Consciousness, at UC Santa Cruz. Shortly after he applied, Fellezs met widely published UCSC sociology professor Herman Gray at a conference. Fellezs introduced himself, and after the two discussed jazz and collecting vinyl, they spent the afternoon record shopping. "That was all I thought it was, just 'Nice meeting you,'" he says.

THEN HE GOT AN EMAIL from Angela Davis, asking to meet for coffee. "I was like — is someone spoofing me?! But it was real!" They met in Berkeley, where Davis told him she'd heard he'd connected with Gray. "She said, 'He wants to work with you, and if you came to Santa Cruz, I'd be your advisor,'" Fellezs says. "And that was that."

DAVIS BECAME A ROLE MODEL for Fellezs. "She taught me a lot of ethnic and feminist theory," he says. "And the first time I lectured as a TA for her, she gave me a check. I couldn't believe it. I had done it for other professors and they never paid me — it was always for the experience," he says. "She said to me, 'I'm not other professors.' So now I do the same, and I get the same reaction. It's how you show someone's labor is of value. That was the sort of the thing she would teach by example." Fellezs will teach a master's class on Davis this fall.

FELLEZS IS INTERESTED in ethnomusicology, which derives from anthropology. "It's about spending time with people and getting a sense of a space in which music is made," he says. Fellezs completed a program this year with anthropologists from Columbia and Barnard, Pacific Climate Circuits, which looked at cultural responses to global climate change through interviews with indigenous activists, artists, musicians, filmmakers and poets.

AS A TEACHER, Fellezs says he wants his undergraduate students to appreciate music and music culture as something more than just entertainment or diversion. "Important things are expressed and articulated through music — even popular music. It's not simply about spectacle or celebrity," he says. Next year he will revive a dormant course, "Contemporary Native American Music," and plans to include native Hawaiian music in the syllabus.

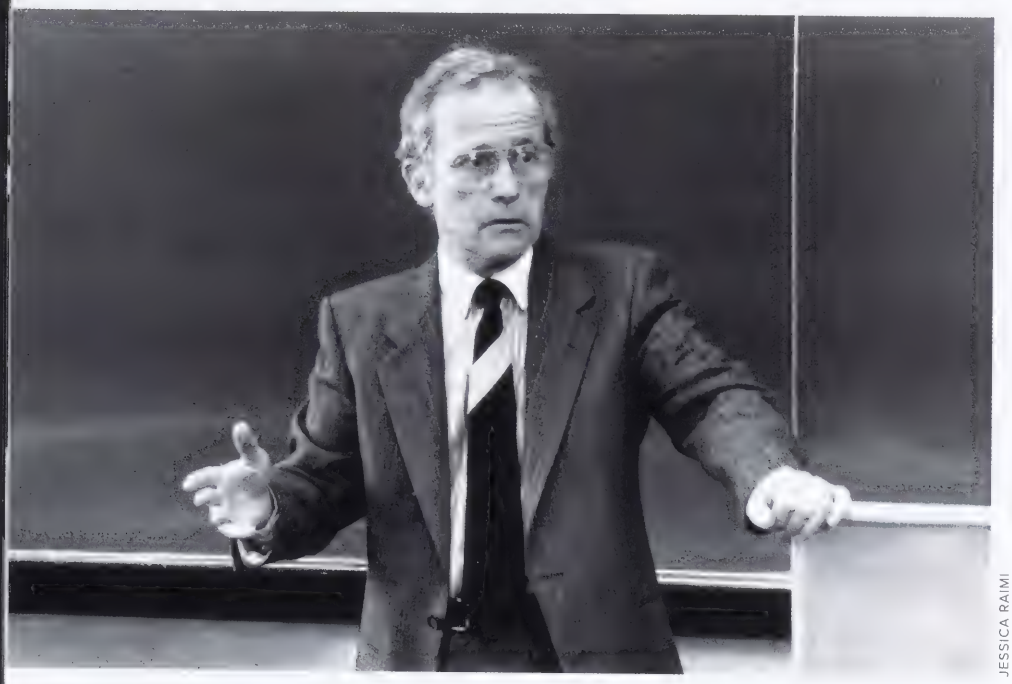
HIS BOOK *Birds of Fire: Jazz, Rock, Funk and the Creation of Fusion* (Duke University Press) won the 2012 Woody Guthrie Book Award. He recently finished the manuscript for his next book, about Hawaiian slack-key guitar.

FELLEZS HAS AROUND 8,000 vinyl records in his collection. "I used to be more eclectic, but now it's mostly jazz and jazz fusion. I have a big Hawaiian section and a Japanese pop section," he says. But he's not a snob: "I don't even look for the best versions — I have plenty that I picked up for 50 cents. Sadly, there aren't many record stores anymore!"

— Jill C. Shomer

In Memoriam: Edward W. "Ted" Tayler, Beloved Shakespeare Scholar

Edward W. "Ted" Tayler, the Lionel Trilling Professor Emeritus and special lecturer in English and comparative literature, whose transformative lectures on Shakespeare and Milton inspired thousands of students and earned him the University's highest honors, died on April 23, 2018. He was 87.



JESSICA RAIMI

Tayler was born in Berlin in 1931 to William R. Tayler, an engineer, and Violetta Klavin-Zeiden, a Latvian emigrée, and raised in Westfield, N.J. He earned a B.A. from Amherst in 1954 and a Ph.D. in English from Stanford in 1960, joining Columbia's faculty weeks later. He also taught at Stanford, Princeton and the Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College.

At Columbia, Tayler taught 16th- and 17th-century poetry and prose and other canonical works for nearly four decades and was known for astonishing his students into literary epiphany.

While some students called Tayler theatrical, many others called him life changing. Dramatist Tony Kushner '78, author of *Angels in America,* credited Tayler's Shakespeare lectures with inspiring him to become a playwright. "I thought I was going to faint, I was so overwhelmed … it made the world look different," Kushner said.

Tayler's courses included Lit Hum; *The New Yorker* film critic David Denby '65, JRN'66, who studied 17th-century metaphysical poetry with Tayler in 1962, featured him, and Lit Hum, in his 1997 book *Great Books: My Adventures with Homer, Rousseau, Woolf, and Other Indestructible Writers of the Western World.* Denby described him as "brilliant," a "hipster wit" who helped students "feel like they are reading literature for the first time."

The Core Curriculum writing course that Tayler created in 1983, "Logic and Rhetoric," now known as "University Writing," earned him a Distinguished Service to the Core Curriculum Award in 1998. "Ted Tayler was trying to get away from the cookie-cutter and formulaic writing, which ultimately shuts down thinking," said Sandra Pierson Prior, head of the Logic and Rhetoric/Composition program from 1982 to 2002. "'Logic and Rhetoric' was designed to develop analytical thinking, so students could learn to approach any intellectual problem and deal with it logically."

Tayler wrote four books — *Nature and Art in Renaissance Literature* (1964); *Literary Criticism of 17th-Century England* (1967); *Milton's Poetry: Its Development in Time* (1979); and *Donne's Idea of a Woman* (1991). "I had, after all, always maintained that publication must come second and ought ideally to be constrained by Horace's nine-year period of incubation," Tayler said in 1989, when he was named an "Honored Scholar" by the Milton Society. Teaching, he continued, "must come first and ought to be considered the noblest of endeavors. … To read Homer, Virgil and Milton with young people vitally concerned with such authors as these — now *that,* I thought, must be a thing worth doing."

Upon retiring in 1999, Tayler was Columbia's most decorated teacher. He received a Great Teacher Award from the Society of Columbia Graduates in 1985, the Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching in 1986 and the University's Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching in 1996. Upon receiving the last, the following citation was delivered: "An educational innovator, revered classroom teacher, and devoted mentor to both undergraduate and graduate students. Your students call you magical, learned and passionate, tough yet tender, witty, humane, wholly unique. Many report that you have changed their lives."

He was also honored with a Guggenheim Fellowship and two National Endowment for the Humanities-Huntington Grants. Colleagues published two collections of Renaissance essays in his honor.

In spring 1968, Tayler was scuffed up by police while protesting alongside students against Columbia's perceived racism and support for the Vietnam War. But he eschewed the protesters' takeover of campus buildings, cautioning them that "you can't remove the chains of oppression by putting them on classroom doors."

Tayler was an avid Norton Commando rider and squash player who liked his martinis bone-dry, with a twist.

Survivors include his third wife, Christina Lee Moustakis; children, William, David and Letta BC'80, from his first marriage, to Stanley Craig Tayler; Edward and Jesse from his second marriage, to Irene Smith Tayler; and four grandchildren.

Read more about Tayler in CCT*'s May 2004 cover story: college.columbia.edu/cct_archive/may04/cover.html.*

ROAR, LION, ROAR

Columbia Fencing: The Dynasty Is Back

By Alex Sachare '71

With two NCAA Championships in the last four years and a pair of 2018 Ivy League crowns raising Columbia's total to 50 — by far the most in the Ancient Eight — the Lions have reclaimed their place among the nation's elite fencing programs.

Or, as Coach Michael Aufrichtig succinctly puts it: "The dynasty is back!"

The secret to Columbia's success? A renewed commitment to placing the team ahead of the individual, as well as making the most of that real estate mantra: location, location, location.

"We really focus on team in our program," says Aufrichtig. "Fencing is an individual sport — it's only you out there — but each of your bouts adds up toward the team scoring. Our team realizes that it's much more fun when the team wins."

Meanwhile, Columbia's location in New York City places it in the middle of the greatest concentration of fencing clubs, coaches and competitors in the country. And the Lion fencers take full advantage, practicing not only in Morningside Heights, but also at the Fencers Club and the New York Athletic Club, which have hosted world-class fencers for more than a century.

It's a formula that has worked for decades. "Promising fencers come to Columbia because they know that in addition to the great coaches here, they will have the opportunity to train with the coaches at the surrounding clubs," says Steve Buchman '59, LAW'62, a two-time All-American in épée.

Columbia's fencing program was among the nation's finest from the 1950s through the 1990s, but went through a dry spell until Aufrichtig assumed the helm in 2011. And there's no doubt about it — the Lions are back. The Class of 2018 graduated with two NCAA Championships, a second- and a third-place finish; the men graduated with four Ivy League Championships and the women with three.



MIKE MCLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

"Columbia has more than a century of tradition in fencing, going back to the 1912 Olympics. [It's] a tradition that would stand up against any sport in any country," says Jeff Kestler '68, an All-American and two-time All-Ivy in foil. "The fact that Michael and his assistant coaches have been able to take hold of that and extend it is incredible."

Columbia, which has won 15 NCAA Championships dating back to 1951, finished second to Notre Dame at this year's NCAAs in April. Iman Blow '19 won the women's foil championship, defeating Ivy League titlist and fellow All-American Sylvie Binder '21 in the semifinals, to become the 36th NCAA individual champion in Columbia history.

Columbia fencers are making their mark on a global scale, as well. Columbia had seven competitors in the Junior (under age 20) World Fencing Championships in Verona, Italy, in April, the most of any NCAA program. Binder led Team USA to the gold medal in women's foil and Sidarth Kumbla '21 came home with individual and team bronze medals in men's foil.

Last summer, at the Senior World Fencing Championships in Germany, Margaret Lu '17, Nzingha Prescod '15 and Nicole Ross '13 helped the United States win a silver medal in foil, the best result ever for the U.S. women at the Senior Worlds. They, along with Jake Hoyle '16 and Jackie Dubrovich '16, are candidates for berths on Team USA at the 2020 Olympics. And Aufrichtig noted that current fencers like Binder and Blow might take a year off to try to qualify for the team.

Columbia has had many outstanding fencing coaches including James Murray, Jose Velarde, Irv DeKoff, Lou Bankuti, George Kolombatovich, Aladar Kogler and now Aufrichtig, who has revived the program by stressing a team-first attitude where the fencers are part of a family that also includes coaches, trainers, parents and alumni.

Blow, for example, is quick to share credit for her NCAA individual championship, where her teammates swarmed onto the mat to celebrate with her after the final point. "It was a test of my own ability to perform, and also it was a test of our entire team's ability to support and to cheer and to be there for one another," she says.

ROAR!

For the latest news on Columbia athletics, visit **gocolumbialions.com.**

Binder had a similar comment when she was named Columbia's Female Rookie of the Year for all sports at the annual Varsity C Celebration on May 1: "As much as going to the Ivy League Championships and getting to compete at the NCAAs was amazing — and I hope I can do that again — I think that just showing up to practice every day and spending time with my teammates was the best part of my year."

As for the benefits of being in New York City, it may well mean more in fencing than any other sport.

"The top fencers in the country, including more than half the Olympic team, come from the tri-state area," Aufrichtig says. And while other schools with top programs, like Notre Dame, Penn State and Ohio State, might offer athletics scholarships to lure those fencers, Columbia can counter with the appeal of the New York club fencing scene; the city boasts mainstays like the Fencers Club and New York AC, and others are constantly sprouting up.

To maximize this resource, Aufrichtig holds two team practices a week at Columbia and then has his fencers travel to the various New York clubs to learn from their coaches and compete against other elite fencers. Often they split up by weapon, since a particular club might specialize in one of the three that make up the sport — foil, épée or sabre — and Aufrichtig and his assistants stay on top of which clubs are attracting the top fencers in which weapon. "Wherever the best fencers are, that's where we go," he says.

Lu, an All-Ivy First Team selection in each of her four years at Columbia and an All-American as a senior, was one of many recent graduates who took advantage. "The access to multiple strong fencing clubs results in an unrivaled caliber and variety of available sparring partners," she says, noting that some teammates visited up to five different clubs in a week.

And while there are many schools in the New York area that can and do take advantage of this resource, there is only one Columbia. "It's an opportunity to get an Ivy League education, which can open many doors," says Dr. Tony Kestler '71, the 1969 NCAA individual foil champion, a two-time All-American and Jeff's brother.

Supporting the team effort are the fencing alumni advisory committee and the Rusty Blades, an informal group of alumni, including Buchman and the Kestlers, who have supported the program for decades; they cheer the Lions at meets and return to campus for the annual Spring Fencing Banquet, where they mingle with members of the current team and incoming fencers. Being welcomed into the multigenerational community impresses upon the younger fencers that they are joining a program rich in tradition.

"Success breeds success," Buchman says. "It's a winning culture and you can't minimize that. People want to come to a program that has been and continues to be successful."

Alex Sachare '71 *covered two NCAA Championship fencing teams as sports editor of* Spectator *and is a former editor-in chief of* CCT.

Lightweight Crew Wins National Title

Lightweight crew won its second Intercollegiate Rowing Association National Collegiate Championship in three years on June 3, defeating Princeton by four seats on Mercer Lake in West Windsor, N.J., to cap a highly successful season.

The Lions swept all of their regular season cup races for the first time since 2000 and lost only once, at Harvard on April 8. They avenged that loss by winning the Eastern Sprints — again for the first time since 2000, with Princeton second followed by Penn and then Harvard — and the IRAs, where Harvard finished third.

The final of the IRAs was held in extremely windy conditions, with the crews facing heavy headwinds for the first part of the race. Columbia got off to a rough start but quickly righted itself and took an early lead, with Princeton and Harvard close behind. "We definitely didn't get off to the start we wanted. It was pretty rocky, a lot of waves. I'd say we got it back in our middle thousand," captain Ben Landis '18 told row2K.com. The Lions stayed in front throughout the race and held off a late charge by Princeton to win.



MIKE McLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS

Shortly after they crossed the finish, Landis spotted his father, John, who lives in Germany, among the spectators watching the race from the shore. Rather than wait till the boat returned to the boatyard, Landis jumped overboard and swam to shore to meet him. "He flew all the way from Germany to see me, so I wanted to see him," said Landis. "He was really happy we won."

It was just the fourth varsity eight national championship since 1928 for any of the three Columbia crews. Landis and Jenson Carlgren '19 are the first Lion lightweights to earn two gold medals at the IRAs, since both were in the varsity eight in 2016.

Meanwhile, Columbia's second lightweight varsity eight enjoyed an undefeated season, sweeping its regular-season races, the Eastern Sprints and the IRAs. "Two guys who won the IRAs as sophomores are now in the second varsity," said John Maloney '18. "This is just a reflection of how much better our team has gotten this year."

MEN'S TENNIS earned a share of the 2018 Ivy League crown with Dartmouth, led by Ivy Player of the Year Victor Pham '19 and the doubles team of Jack Lin '21 and William Matheson '19. Columbia



then beat Monmouth and Virginia in the first two rounds of the NCAA Championships before bowing to top-seeded Wake Forest in the Sweet Sixteen.

The Lions have won or shared the Ivy title in each of the last five years and 15 times overall, including 13 since Coach Bid Goswami, the longest-tenured coach at Columbia, took over the program in 1982. Columbia was ranked as high as fifth in the nation during the season, before finishing at number 16, which earned it the right to host the first two rounds of the NCAA tournament. And in beating Virginia on May 12, the Lions knocked out the team that had worn the NCAA crown each of the last three seasons.

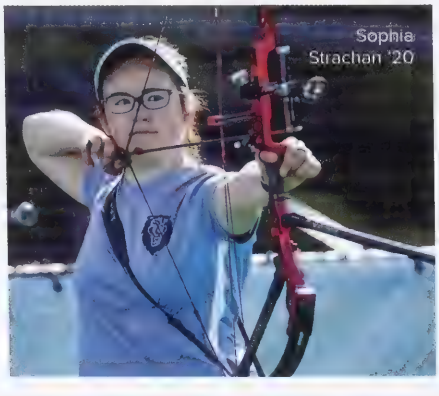
BASEBALL swept Yale in the Ivy League Championship Series (ILCS) to earn a share of the conference's 2018 title along with the Bulldogs, who won the regular season. The Lions earned their fourth NCAA Tournament bid in the last six years but were defeated by the University of Florida and Florida Atlantic University in the double-elimination regional.

Yale had the home-field advantage for the ILCS, but that proved to be no problem for the Lions. Harrisen Egly SEAS'18 pitched seven shutout innings and Ty Wiest '18 retired all six batters he faced as Columbia blanked Yale 4–0 in the opener of the best-of-3 series on May 22, then the two teams battled for 15 innings the next day before Joe Engel '19's sacrifice fly gave the Lions a 2–1 victory in the longest game in Columbia history.

TAYLOR TROUT '18 was named the Ivy League Player of the Year as voted by the league's eight head softball coaches, the first Columbia player to receive the honor in the program's 19-year history. A second baseman, Trout led the Ivy League and set Columbia single-season records in batting average (.455), on-base percentage (.507) and slugging percentage (.797). She also had 56 hits, 15 doubles, nine home runs and 36 RBIs, all of which also led the Ivy League. Her batting average ranks seventh in Ivy League history.

KYRA TIRANA BARRY '87 (soccer) and **JOHN VASKE '88** (basketball, track & field) received the Athletics Alumni Awards at the 97th Varsity C Celebration at Roone Arledge Auditorium on May 1. Among the student honors, the Connie S. Maniatty Outstanding Senior Student-Athlete Awards went to **OSAMA KHALIFA '18** (squash) and co-winners **CAMILLE ZIMMERMAN '18** (basketball) and **SARAH HARDIE '18** (cross-country, track & field); the William V. Campbell Performer of the Year Awards were presented to **ARTHUR BOSUA '18** (soccer) and **IMAN BLOW '19** (fencing); and the Rookie of the Year Awards went to **JONATHAN SUCKOW '21** (diving) and **SYLVIE BINDER '21** (fencing).

ARCHERY won its second consecutive national championship in the compound division at the 2018 U.S. National Outdoor Collegiate Championships on May 19 in Newberry, Fla. The Lions, who edged Michigan State 218–216, were led by All-American Sophia Strachan '20, who won the silver medal in the individual competition for the second year in a row.



LINDSEY EWERTSEN '19 became the first player in Columbia lacrosse history to be selected as the Ivy League Midfielder of the Year. Ewertsen is Columbia's career leader in caused turnovers and set a program single-season record with 75 draw controls this year, including a single-game record 15 in the Lions' home finale against Princeton. She recorded 26 goals and 15



assists in helping to lead the Lions to the most conference wins in a season and first berth into the Ivy League Tournament.

SARAH HARDIE '18 won the 1,500m run in a time of 4:21.94 at the 2018 Ivy League Heptagonal Outdoor Track & Field Championships for the sixth Heps title of her Columbia career. **NELL CROSBY '18** (3,000m steeplechase), **BRIAN ZABILSKI '19** (10,000m) and **RYAN THOMAS '18** (5,000m) also won their races, as did the 4x800 men's relay team of **JACKSON STOREY '21, SAM RITZ '19, ALEK SAUER '19** and **JOSIAH LANGSTAFF '19.**

LLOYD EMANUEL '71 was inducted into the United States Tennis Association Eastern's Tennis Hall of Fame on April 28 at the historic New York Athletic Club. Emanuel won the Eastern College Athletic Conference doubles championship in 1970 while competing for Columbia and went on to found the Eastern Master Grand Prix Circuit, a sanctioned adult tournament series that was played on grass, clay, hard and indoor surfaces in the New York metropolitan area 1985–2003 and drew hundreds of players annually. He is now the head tennis professional at the Fairview Country Club in Greenwich, Conn.

PHOTOS BY MIKE MCLAUGHLIN / COLUMBIA ATHLETICS


ERIC H. HOLDER JR.'73 LEADS A SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE HE CALLS A "LOVE LETTER" TO THE COLLEGE AND THE COUNTRY
TR
RAYON RICHARDS



ERIC H. HOLDER JR. '73, LAW'76 *LOVES* COLUMBIA. And Columbia loves him back — the former U.S. Attorney General has been a University trustee and a Class Day and Dean's Day speaker (in 2009 and 2013, respectively); was a 1996 recipient of a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement; and was the 2015 recipient of the Alexander Hamilton Medal, the highest honor bestowed to a member of the Columbia College community.

In November, the College launched the Eric H. Holder Jr. Initiative for Civil and Political Rights; the Initiative will sponsor courses, public events, student internships and fellowships to amplify the Core Curriculum's discourse on justice and civil and political rights. Discouraging retreat into what Holder calls "the quiet prejudice of inaction," it will encourage students to "live the Core" by supporting their civic action on and beyond campus. The Initiative kicked off in January by hosting The American Voter Project, a five-part series that explored the state of voting in the United States. A new course, "Power, Rights, and Social Change: Achieving Justice," which bridges the Core and contemporary issues of social justice, was taught in the spring semester.

Holder's commitment to just societies extends beyond the Gates. As the chairman of the National Democratic Redistricting Committee, he is fighting for fairly drawn district lines to be mapped after the census in 2020. In October he called on Congress to impose changes that could reduce mass incarceration. And he was a lead consultant for Starbucks' racial bias awareness training, which was administered to more than 175,000 employees nationally on May 29, in response to an incident in which two black men were arrested while waiting for a business meeting to start at a Philadelphia store.

Columbia College Today spoke with Holder in late April about how the Initiative got started, his hopes for our country and how the College continues to influence his life. >>

BLUE

BY JILL C. SHOMER

Q: You have said that the College "generated a real desire [in you] to explore the underlying truths" about human rights issues. Was there a particular experience that led you to that?
A: I think the initial desire was sparked by Contemporary Civilization, in my first year. Studying the great thinkers and the fundamental questions they raised about how people interact with one another: What are people like in the state of nature? How do people interact when there are more formal governance structures in place? And then expanding on that — how have people used power and abused power? It sparked in me something that I didn't necessarily expect to have happen — an interest in human rights and the relationship of the individual to governing authorities. I'd always been interested in history, and this kind of honed that interest, made it more specific.

Q: You were certainly on campus at an interesting time.
A: It *was* an interesting time! I got here the year after the 1968 event. We were on the other side of it but the echoes were still very much there.

Q: Were there any professors who especially made an impression?
A: I think about Hollis Lynch, Dwight Miner ['26, GSAS'40] … Eric Foner ['63, GSAS'69], obviously. I remember sitting in Foner's class, maybe it was "America After the Civil War," and he said, "The history of America in the 19th century is the history of the black man." *Whoa.* He was teaching Reconstruction history in a way that's more generally accepted now, but at the time it was groundbreaking. He was asking questions that people had not asked up until that point and finding what I think are hard truths. He was a real pioneer and a real influence.



ASHOK SINHA

ERIC FONER '63, GSAS'69 MADE A SIGNIFICANT IMPRESSION ON HOLDER AS AN UNDERGRAD.

Q: What inspired you to spearhead the Initiative with Dean [James J.] Valentini?
A: What I thought was, I got the best liberal arts education you could possibly get here at the College — both in terms of what I learned in the classroom and also being at Columbia at that time. It was a very activist period, we protested a variety of things — the war in Vietnam, Kent State. I was in class learning these very interesting philosophical things and then there was the world as it existed in which I lived, and it always seemed to me that there was a bit of a disconnect. There was a need for some connective tissue between that which I learned in the classroom and that which I experienced in the real world. And I thought the Initiative would be a way in which we might be able to do that: If we can help students take some of what they have learned and the questions that have been generated by their studies, and apply them to the issues they'll face. For example, what Kant, Hume or Aristotle would say about politics, about human nature, about government — let's see how that impacts the student's view of contemporary society. Let's apply it to the 21st century and see what that's like. We prepare Columbia students so well with what they learn here in the classrooms; we can augment that with real-world experience and take the best and brightest and make them ready to lead this nation.

Q: It feels like 2018 is an ideal time for this. Can you elaborate on how the Initiative's tenets are so necessary and urgent for College students today?
A: We're at the beginnings of what I've come to call "a period of American engagement." In some ways, the silver lining to what I feel is a very disturbing period is to see the reaction of the American people. Almost immediately after the inauguration was the [first] Women's March; more recently, the march of young people to protest the lack of action when it comes to dealing in a sane, logical way with gun violence. And a whole range of issues and involvement in between. I think one of the things we're going to see come out of this period is a revitalized interest in our civic life and the notion that you have to participate. And this is what the Initiative is really all about — if you are going to be a good citizen, you have to be a participant. You can't merely be an observer. You need to be knowledge based, you need to have a grounding for the ideas and theories you want to expound, and you need to take the abilities that are polished here at Columbia and use them in the real world, for good.

Q: And for the long haul.
A: Exactly. This isn't a "for now" thing, this is a lifetime thing. Someone gave me a button recently that says STAY WOKE. It doesn't matter what your age is, as long as you are an American citizen and you care, you need to be involved.

Q: In what way do you think civil and political rights are most threatened right now?
A: The thing that worries me most is that a lot of the norms that govern our society are being either challenged or discarded. I think our legal system is holding, and I think people will ultimately be held accountable for any crimes they may have committed. But there are norms being broken that worry me a great deal; for instance, the ways in which the White House interacts with the Justice Department. There is nothing written that says a President should not direct an Attorney General to do something or take a particular action, but that is a norm that has always been followed. And when it's not been followed, it has resulted in negative consequences. Another norm is having a healthy respect for the press and the function of the media. If you're in public life, sometimes you don't agree with things

THERE WAS A NEED FOR SOME CONNECTIVE TISSUE BETWEEN THAT WHICH I LEARNED IN THE CLASSROOM AND THAT WHICH I EXPERIENCED IN THE REAL WORLD.

that are written about you, or sometimes things are wrong. I've been upset by articles, but I never questioned the value of the press — to attack the press is something that I think is unique to this administration, something we've not seen in the United States. But alarmingly, it's something we've seen in other places and at other times. I think we do ourselves a great disservice and put our democracy at risk if we don't understand that as entrenched as it seems, our democracy is still a fragile thing. And it depends on vigilance, involvement and principled opposition when that's appropriate. Unless we do those kinds of things we can end up in a country that's fundamentally different from the one we've had for more than 200 years and that we too often take for granted. There are still a whole range of issues in this imperfect nation, but in a lot of ways this initiative is almost like a love letter to this institution and this country, a means by which I can play a small part in ensuring that those people who are best qualified have the greatest opportunity to lead.



BEN HIDER

HOLDER AT THE INITIATIVE LAUNCH IN NOVEMBER 2017.

Q: So you are hopeful?

A: I'm an optimistic person. I'm as optimistic now as when I walked up College Walk for the first time. I also believe in the possibility of positive change, but positive change doesn't just *happen*. You have to make it happen. Change happens because people focus on an issue, identify a wrong and then commit themselves to righting that wrong. Doing all the things that are necessary: protesting, challenging an unjust status quo. The easiest thing is to go along. I've been extremely lucky in my life; I suppose I could just go along and go to my job and go home, but that's not what Columbia people do. That's not why you come to this place.

Q: Speaking of positive change, let's talk about Starbucks. How did that come about?

A: I got a call after the incident in Philadelphia; [Starbucks CEO] Kevin Johnson asked me to be on a panel to deal with the notion of unconscious bias. What I liked about Starbucks was that early on, from the highest levels, it was made clear that what happened there was wrong, without trying to sugarcoat it. We want to find a way in which to make sure it doesn't happen again.

But I also think that we as a nation should not find comfort in the notion that this is a Starbucks problem. This is way bigger than an iconic American company. The whole question of unconscious bias is something that impacts all of us.

Q: Do you think the training will be effective?

A: I hope in the Starbucks context it will be useful for their employees, but it's also something that we as a nation should somehow engage in. I think about the relationship between communities of color and the valiant men and women who serve in law enforcement. If I could shape the training that people in law enforcement went through, I think I'd have modules: one would be about unconscious bias and the use of force, and how you protect yourself when it comes to violent encounters; and then with regard to people in these communities of color, [to create] a greater understanding of how difficult it is to be a person in law enforcement. You could build up the necessary trust that I think has eroded over the years and make those relationships better.

I think that in some ways, there's a line from that Starbucks in Philadelphia to these larger societal questions. I think the training can be effective, and I think it's a start. If it's successful, if we can come up with a metric and make a determination that this effort has been successful, why not expand it? Let's have other companies do this training, governmental agencies do the same thing. If we can take a more widespread examination of the question of unconscious bias, the experience those two young men had to deal with in Philadelphia might actually be worth it.

Q: What is your long-term vision for the Initiative? Is it something you'd like to see become a national program?

A: My dream at this point is for this initiative to become an integral part of the Columbia experience, and imbue it with a flexibility so that it has the capacity to deal with whatever the civil and political rights issues will be 50 years from now, or 100 years from now. My hope would be in the same way that Contemporary Civilization has lasted for so long, that maybe this initiative will last as long.

I'd like to think this might extend to something larger in other places, but my particular concern is with the institution to which I owe so much and that I love so much, so I want it to be here. There are very few things that I care about having my name on — this is one thing that matters to me. That this becomes part of the Columbia DNA. Long after I'm gone, people might think about The Holder Initiative and in some ways associate me with what I think will be a great launching pad for social change, for justice. As long as Columbia is in the lead, I'm happy.

"THE LATEST" TURNS ONE!

Selections from our first year of original digital content

IN MAY 2017, *CCT* debuted original digital content on our website in a section we call "The Latest." Our mission was to keep you connected to *CCT* and the College between quarterly issues, and to bring you more timely news about your fellow alumni. We hoped you would respond and boy, did you ever! "Take Five" — in which we ask alums five questions about their College experience — took off like a rocket, and we've been astounded by the range of personal stories and details you've shared. We've gone on to feature alumni voices from the Class of 1934 (writer Herman Wouk, who put out a book at 102!) to the Class of 2017 (*CCT* class correspondent Carl Yin) — in their own words, conversations, essays and even cartoon panels. (Ariel Schrag '03's graphic column, "Pregnant on the Subway," was so popular it got thousands of pageviews!) It's been a blast working on this, so to commemorate our first Latest anniversary we're sharing excerpts from some of our favorite posts. You can find the stories in full and more at college.columbia.edu/cct/latest. *— Jill C. Shomer*

Illustrations by Dr. Ben Schwartz '03, PS'08

Take Five

This quickly became our best-read section, and the responses have been incredible. Here are some we especially loved:



What were you like when you arrived at Columbia?

"All I know is that we've gotta get it
We've gotta make it on our own."

— *On Our Own*
(Bobby Brown, 1989)

"On the morning of move-in day, I boarded the 2 train at the Beverly Road stop in Brooklyn with most of my belongings and all of my dreams. I was then and am now a loud and proud New Yorker, a huge Knicks fan, a lover of music and poetry, and a passionate scholar. As an alumna of The Chapin School, an all-girls independent school in Manhattan, I felt confident, academically prepared and tremendously excited to be a part of the third wave of Columbia College women to arrive on the Morningside Heights campus.

"My mother, a registered nurse and by then a nursing home administrator, had taken the day off from work to accompany me to Carman Hall. As the daughter of working-class parents, I knew that her daytime presence was a big deal. (My father, a welder, needed to go to work.) I knew for sure that I had my parents' love and unfailing support, yet I remember thinking, 'Wanda, you're on your own now.' My mother handed me $1,000 in cash that she had borrowed from her older brother. 'This is all I have, and it's not even mine,' she said to me with tears and prayers in her eyes.

"When I arrived at Columbia, I was smart, strong and poor — traits that had made me both resourceful and resilient. I paid for my own education with loans, grants and earned wages."

— **Wanda M. Holland Greene '89, TC'91,**
head of school at The Hamlin School
in San Francisco

What class do you most remember and why?

"Andrew Chiappe '33, GSAS'39's Shakespeare class and his seminar on *King Lear*. They were each life-changing in their way. In the first we read the plays chronologically, which was a radical concept in its day. All my Ivy League friends were reading the plays by category: comedies, histories, tragedies. We studied Shakespeare as he developed as a thinker and writer. We found the connections between *Lear* and *The Tempest;* we knew he had to write a spotty play in order to write a great one. We studied his growth and development as an artist instead of focusing on his greatest hits. I still have my Pelican Shakespeares with my notes written in the margins. To this day, I study the works of any artist I admire and want to know more about chronologically instead of only staying with their masterpieces.

"As for the *King Lear* seminar, we weren't even halfway through the play when the spring semester ended. We parsed every word; we argued about every interpretation. I'm still at it. *King Lear* remains, for me, the greatest achievement of the human mind. I would not trade it for all of Mozart, Michelangelo or Chekhov. I thank Professor Chiappe and my fellow seminarians (I believe there were eight of us) for teaching me that a great work of art is worth a lifetime of study and the ultimate acknowledgement that it is finally unknowable. It is there for us all our lives to ponder and engage with. The Class of 2060 will be doing the same — and probably with no better results."

— Playwright **Terrence McNally '60**



What do you remember about your first-year living situation?

"It's difficult to forget your first-year living situation when it's a Furnald double. I met my roommate for the first time with a rehearsed 'hello,' an open mind and a hint of trepidation. Whoever matched us perhaps saw we were both from California and thought that would be enough common ground to carry us through the year. For the most part they got it right, with one small exception — we had wildly disparate definitions of what constitutes a hygienic living environment. I've routinely been described as 'intense,' and naturally I projected my anal-retentive personality onto my half of the walls around me. Piles of clothes, scattered suitcases and at times an unplugged refrigerator would split our dimly lit double (it certainly didn't help that the door was on his side of the obstacle course). In retrospect, it might have been his way of suggesting I spend less time organizing the room and more time enjoying my first year of college — a valuable message to hear, but a challenging one to live with."

— **Ryan Bubinski '11,** co-founder of Codecademy, a leading online education company

What, if anything, about your College experience would you do over?

"I've thought about this periodically over the years. Naturally I wish I'd participated more in class. I wasn't the best student to graduate from Columbia, but I didn't really exploit the full breadth of academic life because I was so cowed by it. I never did office hours, never connected with a single professor. That's a profound regret of mine. I also wish I'd stepped off campus more — seen more plays, explored more random subway stops, that sort of thing. But there were moments when glimmers of my bold, bad-ass self started to take shape, like the time I ran into the crew team cutie with the Elvis Costello glasses just outside Koronet the night before winter break my senior year. He was off to study abroad the next semester — this was it, probably the last time we'd see each other. We said our goodbyes, hugged and went our separate ways. Then I turned around, ran back into his arms and gave him a long, passionate kiss. Passersby stopped to gawk. It was cinematic. That's my Columbia. And I wish I could do it over. Again and again."

— **Lea Goldman '98,** editor-in-chief of Lifetime Television

Did you have a favorite spot on campus, and what did you like about it?

"I have a soft spot for Earl Hall, the stately McKim, Mead & White building, which not only housed the offices of chaplains and religious groups, but also hosted a monthly gay dance on its top floor with a starry dome (as I remember it, at least). Those dances were advertised downtown and come spring lots of men from the West Village and other points a #1 IRT subway ride away would show up. You could lie on the lawn in front of the building and engage in conversations with them. At that point anyone with a 'real job,' not a student, was a figure of fascination to me. I had no idea why they would want to travel to a student dance when they might go to far wilder venues downtown. Having grown up in the repressive 1950s in America, I had never danced with a boy. I did so, for the first time, to 'Ain't No Mountain High Enough' at Earl Hall."

— Poet, novelist and biographer
Brad Gooch '73, GSAS'86



Like Minds

A few times this past year we put alumni together for conversation on a subject that matters to them. In this case, *CCT* connected art curators **Tim Griffin '92,** director of the experimental Chelsea space The Kitchen and the former editor of *Artforum* magazine, and **Peter Currie '07,** director of the New York location of Galerie Buchholz, a Germany-based contemporary art gallery. Their three-hour lunch conversation was chronicled in a September 2017 post:



Can you talk about communicating sophisticated ideas to a broad audience and making your art accessible?

CURRIE: "I feel sometimes like that's my job, and I'm not always good at it. Sometimes I have the feeling like I can't stand in front of an artwork and open it up to people with various degrees of interest.

"That being said, art is art, and I kind of like that it's hard for me. I don't necessarily have a native fluency with it. There's a lot that's unknown that you come to slowly and in roundabout ways. I think it's OK for art to be challenging or to have hurdles that you have to jump to be able to hold conflicting or complicated or vague ideas in your head. I don't fight against that."

GRIFFIN: "I feel like it's possible to speak in a way that makes art accessible without sacrificing sophistication. If you put the two of us together we're inevitably going to go to a kind of specialist language that moves the conversation along; it's a kind of shorthand. There's nothing wrong with that. As a writer and editor, I feel like there is often an unnecessary fear that people won't understand what they're reading or hearing about. I think the public is a lot more sophisticated than the press, especially the art press, gives them credit for."

Think Tank

Alumni in the know offered insights on newsworthy topics ranging from football-related brain injury:

"I would submit that the medical research is in early innings; how the safety issue will be resolved remains to be seen. I loved playing the game but have also lost teammates who suffered dearly and died from CTE [chronic traumatic encephalopathy]. Making a decision to let a child play at an early age would be very difficult."
— **Martin Domres '69,** record-setting Lions quarterback and former NFL pro, inducted into both the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame and the Columbia Football All-Century Team

... to climate change:

"We have chosen a future where we, and our children, will have to adapt. Where plants — living organisms that make up our food source, and the ecosystems that support them — will be challenged by new conditions. Where our water sources might be threatened. Let's be clear: We are choosing to adapt to these changes because we refuse to adopt modest lifestyle changes right now, changes that some might consider part of progress. I'm a climate scientist and I'm scared."
— Oceanographer **Meghan F. Cronin '86**

... to Oscar-nominated films:

"My favorite film of 2017 remains *Blade Runner 2049*, months after I first saw it. From a place of tone, mood and attention to detail, nothing holds a candle. The best movies don't just stick with you in the moment; they linger over time. I'll be hearing the roaring sound of those flying trucks rolling by for many years to come."
— **Justin Marks '02,** screenwriter; credits include *Counterpart* (2018) and *The Jungle Book* (2016)

Where Are They Now?

Do you ever wonder what happens next in the lives of the alums *CCT* profiles? We do, and this section allows us to check in. We recently caught up with **Robby Mook '02,** who was Hillary Clinton's campaign manager in the 2016 election. He's now a visiting fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School, working to develop strategies, tools and technology to protect democratic processes from cyber and information attacks:



"[I think] the greatest challenge moving ahead for campaigns is how to really understand what voters are hearing and how they are feeling — I don't think we have a good grasp of that right now. ... If anything, I've learned that campaign managers need to operate in an environment of tremendous uncertainty, volatility and change. ... I think we got blindsided a bit in 2016, and still haven't figured out how to understand — of everything that's out there — what voters are paying attention to and what information is actually getting through to them."

" ... [My current role] help[s] me to understand not just cyber-security in particular, but also more about how technology is influencing our security — the way we talk to one another, the way people engage in our democracy ... [I think] the biggest thing I've learned over the last few years is how campaign management is no longer a set of best practices that evolve in two-year cycles; it's now an incredibly dynamic space. Managers have to learn to anticipate the unexpected and have to look at a campaign not as it is in the present, but where it could be."

Lion's Den



We also like to hear alumni stories that aren't related to the College! Personal essays of all stripes get posted each month; **Adam Mansbach '98, SOA'00,** author of more than a dozen books, including *The New York Times* bestseller *Go the F**k to Sleep*, shared his hilarious take on training for childbirth in "Birthing Class, Twice." Here is an excerpt from that post:

"The retired midwife who ran the class employed a pedagogical structure I'd characterize as 'Introduce a terrifying thing that can happen during pregnancy, then reassure everyone that it's very rare and not even worth thinking about, then tell a 15-minute story about the one time she saw it happen and BOY WAS IT GRUESOME.'

"The highlight of the class was when she tricked the women into drawing pictures like a bunch of third-graders as a pretext to lure the men out into the hallway and ask us how we were 'really doing,' away from all the macho posturing that can go on in a room covered in advertisements for in-home breastfeeding assistance.

"The answer was: Not well. One dude, who always showed up to the class in full biking regalia like he was fitting this in between stages of the Tour de France, said he was afraid his wife would die in childbirth. Not to be outdone, this other dude who was a professional Ultimate Frisbee coach said he couldn't stop imagining the doctor coming into the waiting room and telling him that either his wife or his son was going to die and *he had to pick which one.*

"Obviously, these guys were completely unhinged. I mean, come on — *waiting room*? There's no waiting room anymore."



Susanna Fogel '02 flanked by Kate McKinnon '06 (left) and Mila Kunis on set.

HOPPER STONE / SMPSP





In the Director's Chair

Susanna Fogel '02 makes a summer blockbuster her way

It's 2 p.m. on a Friday at the Café Tropical in the Silver Lake section of Los Angeles. Susanna Fogel '02 sits in the same off-beat bohemian Cuban coffee shop that's seen her through hundreds of script-writing sessions, along with the creative highs (scripts sold) and lows (but never produced) that characterized much of her early career.

This time is different, though. Fogel hasn't brought her laptop. She's wearing jeans and a T-shirt with a watermelon on it, and she's just here to get her favorite café con leche before going roller skating. Why not enjoy the day when you've just directed one of the summer's most anticipated movies?

That movie is *The Spy Who Dumped Me*, starring Mila Kunis and Kate McKinnon '06, and set for release August 3. Fogel, who also co-wrote the film, describes the plot as "Broad City meets Bourne" — an action comedy that follows two friends as they stumble unwittingly into an international conspiracy. Producers are hoping it'll be this year's *Trainwreck* or *Girls Trip*, which — if you missed them — were R-rated, female-driven summer comedy hits.

In many ways, *The Spy Who Dumped Me* is a quintessential Fogel production. Relationships figure prominently in much of her work, dating back to her first short film, *For Real,* which

By Phil Wallace '04

was about three teenage girls who purport to be best friends, but talk trash and conspire against each other whenever one of them leaves the room; the film landed a spot in the prestigious Toronto International Film Festival when Fogel was just 14. More recently, her big-screen directorial debut, 2014's *Life Partners*, was loosely based on her real-life relationship with close friend and writing partner Joni Lefkowitz.

"There are so many relationships that matter in our lives that aren't just romantic. And it's become important for me to show those," Fogel says. "That is, to me, more universal these days than finding people who are happily married. One thing that every woman I know has is a best friend, and I'm more interested in those relationships than the fairytale about meeting the perfect guy."

Fogel's road to the big screen started in Providence, R.I., where her parents were both on the faculty at Brown. Her father, Dr. Barry Fogel, is a neuropsychiatrist and professor and her mother, Margaret Selkin Fogel Ph. D. BC'68, is a psychologist. Fogel spent the summer before her senior year at the College as a researcher for screenwriter James Schamus while he produced and wrote the Ang Lee-directed *Hulk*. (She recalls reading Core books in Butler to help connect western philosophy with Lee's eastern philosophical roots.) She also helmed the Varsity Show in 2001, a "life-defining" experience that she says helped her to enjoy the collaborative production process.



ATTILA SZVACSEK

Fogel with Justin Theroux, who also stars in the film, on set.

Fogel moved to Los Angeles the day of her graduation. She held a series of "demeaning temp jobs" and wrote scripts virtually every night, often with Lefkowitz, whom she befriended at a writing class shortly after the move. By 2006, the pair had a manager who helped get several of their scripts purchased. It was the beginning of a string of nearly a dozen almost-produced projects, including a few with big names attached (Evan Rachel Wood, Sigourney Weaver, Sarah Jessica Parker).

For a while, supporting herself as a writer created an illusion of success, Fogel says. "But if you're a filmmaker who really wants to see things come together, it starts to gnaw at your soul that you write these things and then a studio owns them. The whims of their business dictate whether your movie gets made."

Then came *Life Partners;* before it was a movie, it was a one-act play that she and Lefkowitz wrote "just because we were sick of not getting to do anything." "We were like, 'We just have to get a theater, and then we're gonna do it ourselves.' I have noticed that every time I've done that, it has led to great things. Every time you get to rock bottom and have nothing to lose, you make an investment of time that feels like it makes no sense, but you pour your heart into it. That always gets me further than the more prescribed things that are supposed to advance your career."

The Spy Who Dumped Me came on the heels of a similar rock-bottom moment, when another script was sold only to languish in a company's vault. "I felt really powerless and frustrated, and the whole system felt really broken to me. My friend David [Iserson] was also feeling that way about his writing and producing career," Fogel says. "We decided to write an action movie with women. It started as somewhat of a cynical exercise of, 'Well, we're not going to make our little heartfelt movies; we're going to write a big movie with car chases.'"

Along the way, they became attached. "Because we had just written it in this burst of inspiration, we felt empowered and energized by that, and decided that only we were going to make it happen. We weren't going to sell it. We were only going to partner with somebody who basically committed to making it, which is approaching deal making from a position of power that we maybe didn't have any right to have, and had never exercised before."

Fogel ultimately connected with Ron Howard and Brian Grazer from Imagine Entertainment, and earned distribution by Lionsgate. She signed up editor Jonathan Schwartz '03 and landed

HOPPER STONE / SMPSP



McKinnon as "Morgan" and Kunis as "Audrey."

Saturday Night Live star McKinnon, who'd had a small role in *Life Partners*.

"Susanna is so many things that make a great director," McKinnon says. "She is blisteringly smart and funny. She has such a clear vision about tone, and she is guided by a strong personal mission about what she wants to express. … I think she's going to emerge as a really important voice in film."

Fogel is mindful that her voice is one of a small cohort. Despite the success of films like Patty Jenkins' *Wonder Woman* or Greta Gerwig BC'06's *Lady Bird*, only two of the nearly 50 films scheduled for wide release this summer are directed by women. Fogel offers a nuanced take on how gender might have influenced her career and ability to get pictures produced.

"In some ways, it's not as simple as just not being given the opportunity. I also think that it's a chicken-and-egg thing where the skepticism I was met with 10 years ago trying to do this job led to me having insecurities, that led to me not presenting myself as competent, which led to me not getting jobs," Fogel says. "So it's much about how the gendered stuff that we deal with our whole lives affects our confidence level, and then, how that confidence level affects our hireability.

"Walking into Lionsgate in a really confident way, and then directing the movie with confidence, I did not feel aware of gender bias on the set of the movie at all. I never felt like these action guys treated me differently. And I wonder if five years before, I just wouldn't have projected that. So I might've gotten more pushback about directing the movie then."

For Fogel, that confidence has put her in a position to make more films that differ from traditional rom-coms.

"When I was little, I was so far from having those issues in my own life that I didn't notice how narrowly they defined happiness for a woman. And now that I'm well into my 30s, and my life and my friends' lives look so different from those traditional romantic comedies, I think what I want is just more representation of different kinds of stories for women in general," Fogel says. "I don't think it's anti-feminist to make a movie about a woman who wants to get married and have babies. There should just be enough other movies about other types of women so they're not saying that's the one model that we have. We just need to have enough voices and stories, really."

"There are so many relationships that matter in our lives that aren't just romantic. And it's become important for me to show those."

Phil Wallace '04 *is VP of business development for Reigning Champs and NCSA Next College Student Athlete. He is also the founder of the entertainment website ScreenPicks.com.*



CLASS OF 2018, "EMBRACE YOUR





More than 1,200 students joined the ranks of alumni at Class Day 2018, celebrating with all the pomp (plus tears and joy!) the circumstance called for. The ceremony, which took place on May 15, opened with the 15th annual Alumni Parade of Classes and featured remarks from Dean James J. Valentini (see page 3) and keynote speaker Dede Gardner '90, an Academy Award-winning producer and the co-president of Plan B Entertainment.

Gardner took the podium for a moving speech about the power of empathy. "We're going to do this a little differently than perhaps is common," she said, explaining that she'd emailed the graduating class in advance to ask them to share their deepest fears. She then read them aloud — a lengthy list that ranged from lovelessness and loneliness to not making a difference or selling out; racism, bigotry, misogyny and violence; disappointing yourself and others around you; living a life of "should" and not "wish."

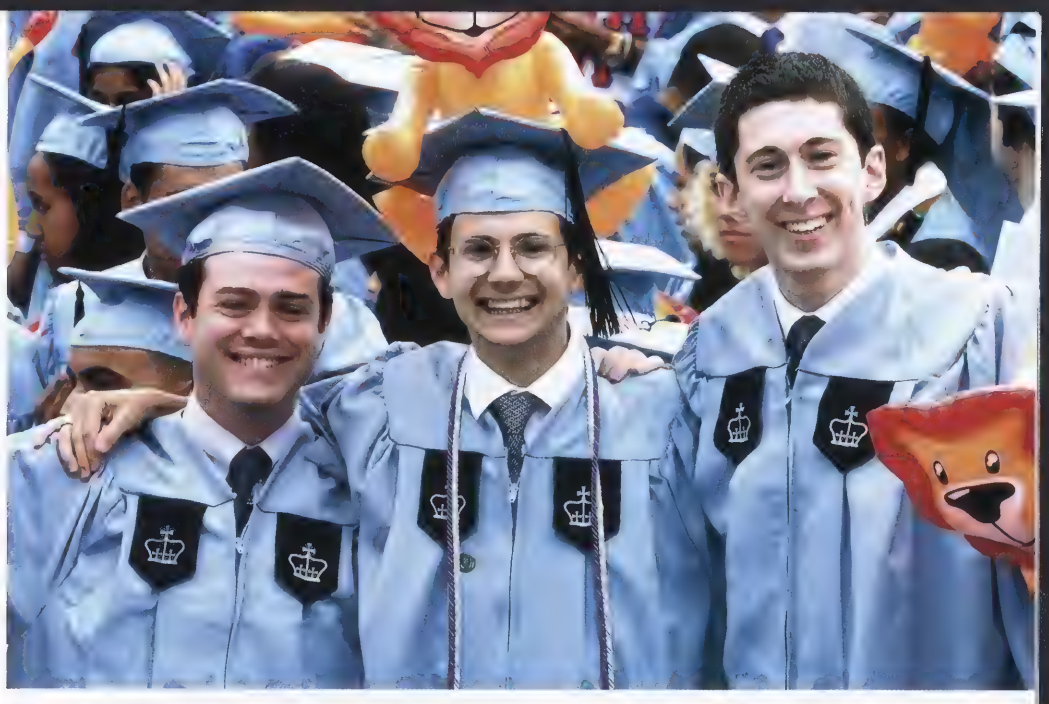
"They are fears that belong to all of us," she said. "I give this commonality to you as your first state of awareness as graduates, because I have lived long enough to know that it is from this understanding that anything is possible."

Of the people we meet, she concluded: "Presume very little in your life, but of this I am sure: If they are human, if they breathe and churn and rage and dance and stomp and mourn and honor; know that they, too, are walking this mad human experiment and know that they, too, are scared. No matter how alien this may seem to you, I believe it is here that you will find the kindest reflection and, in this gleam, your leap."

The University-wide Commencement took place the following day, with President Lee C. Bollinger delivering his annual address. Shazi Visram '99, BUS'04 received the University Medal for Excellence, and John C. Connell '76; James P. Gerkis '80, LAW'83; Teresa Saputo-Crerend '87, BUS'92; and Michael J. Schmidtberger '82, LAW'85 were among the 10 recipients of Alumni Medals for distinguished service to the University of 10 years or more.

Photographs by Eileen Barroso and Chris Taggart





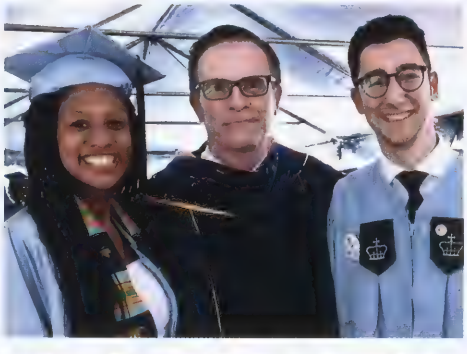
FEARS"





"YOUR STORY *IS* YOUR LEGACY, NO MATTER WHEN OR HOW OR IF IT GETS TOLD."

— CLASS DAY SPEAKER DEDE GARDNER '90







CCT Print Extras

Hear Gardner's full remarks and other Class Day speeches at **college.columbia.edu/cct.** You also can view more photos from Class Day and Commencement, plus a list of Academic Awards and Prizes winners.

POMPQUIZ

WE PUT 10 GRADUATES ON THE SPOT AT COMMENCEMENT TO GET THEIR LAST WORDS ON LEAVING THE COLLEGE



BINDU BANSINATH

MAJOR: English

WHAT'S NEXT: "I'm going to do an M.F.A. in fiction at Columbia."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "I learned to question everything and to humble yourself. Every day was a challenge and a reward."



KAITLIN HICKEY

MAJOR: French and Francophone Studies, and History

WHAT'S NEXT: "I'm doing a Fulbright in Paris, teaching English."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "Columbia taught me how to think critically, and I want to use that to become the best version of myself as a global citizen."



CONNOR YOCKUS

MAJOR: Dance, with a Special Concentration in Business Management

WHAT'S NEXT: "I'm working in tech after graduation and I hope, long term, in arts administration and arts management."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "Letting my interests and passions lead where they lead me — not having a linear path set out, just following what my heart desires in the moment.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ESON CHAN

TANVEER SINGH

MAJOR: Financial Economics and Political Science

WHAT'S NEXT: "I'll be consulting at McKinsey."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "The diversity of the people I met, how people expressed their beliefs and learned to synthesize that with the things they've learned here, and also tried to open up their identity to others — that was powerful for me. I visited the homes and cultures of a lot of people on campus through events and through multicultural organizations. Being part of that community gave me a global perspective on issues, and I hope to keep that in mind as I move into my career."



XIOMARA BOVELL

MAJOR: Comparative Literature and Society, with a Special Concentration in Business Management

WHAT'S NEXT: "I'm going to work at Facebook in San Francisco."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "The breadth of learning. I've taken a class in pretty much every department, so trying different ways of thinking and writing and applying those learnings to life."



CHRISTIN HONG

MAJOR: Biochemistry

WHAT'S NEXT: "Medical school at Robert Wood Johnson at Rutgers, in New Jersey."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "The friendships, and being able to serve in my community. I was a resident advisor and being able to work with a multitude of people and in such different ways — not only to organize events, but also to just be there and develop camaraderie on my floor — that felt like the biggest skill and experience."



GURNOOR TUCKER

MAJOR: Financial Economics and History

WHAT'S NEXT: "I'll be working in finance and infrastructure investing at Macquarie Infrastructure."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "Learning how to work hard and working under pressure, but also thinking at a higher level. The Core Curriculum does an excellent job exposing you to some of the most eminent texts in Western literature and political philosophy, and it contextualized a lot of the beliefs that I had in politics and society. I'm looking forward to taking that into the real world and bringing a sharp mind to the workplace and wherever I go after that."



NATASHA URBANY

MAJOR: Political Science

WHAT'S NEXT: "I'll be moving back to D.C. to work as a consultant for Deloitte."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "The people and the way in which my professors, the Core, everything about New York City, all pushed me to try something different every semester — to take a different kind of class, take a semester abroad, try sustainable development. It's all going to push me to move forward!"



LIAM McDERMOTT

MAJOR: Environmental Biology

WHAT'S NEXT: "I want to mainly travel."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "A more in-depth perspective on social issues and ways to approach social issues in the world using my education. I would like to try to use an interdisciplinary approach to help people and the environment at the same time."



KRISTINE DUNN

MAJOR: English

WHAT'S NEXT: "Not sure yet! Going back to my parents' house in New Jersey to figure it out. I'd love to do something where I can get outdoors, maybe with art."

THE CC TAKEAWAY: "I really like how people here are motivated to change their surroundings. I like that we're able to mobilize around issues and work toward making the world a better place!"

EXTRA CREDIT

You can read the rest of our graduate interviews on July 17: **college.columbia.edu/cct/latest/feature-extras.**

Intensity in 10 Stories

Daniel Alarcón '99's latest work explores gritty themes

When *CCT* last featured **Daniel Alarcón '99** in "Columbia Forum," in 2010, he was a first-time novelist. Though still in the early stages of his literary career, the Peruvian-born Alarcón had nonetheless achieved an unusual degree of success. His first short story collection, *War by Candlelight* (2005), was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Award; his novel, *Lost City Radio* (2007), had been named a Best Novel of the Year by the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *The Washington Post*. In 2010, *The New Yorker* named him to its list of the young fiction writers who were "key to their generation."

Alarcón's fictions are always a seductively unusual hybrid: personal stories saturated with the kind of economic and political awareness that is second nature to a journalist. In his story "City of Clowns" — darkly rendered as a graphic novel by Peruvian artist Sheila Alvarado — the hero, a reporter named Chino, roams Lima's rough alleys and squares as he wrestles with his father's death and the legacy of growing up poor in a rough, corrupt capital city. Alarcón may acknowledge the power of politics, but his work's driving force is a journalist's basic inquisitiveness. "I write what I'm curious about," he told *Kirkus Reviews* in 2017.

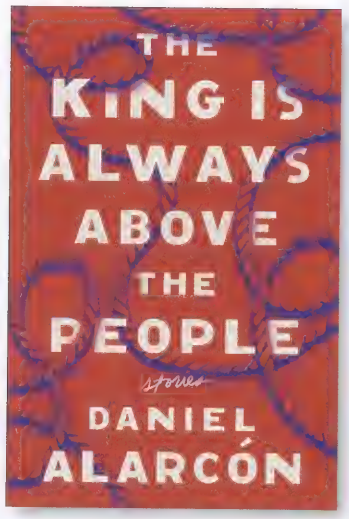


HUGO ROJO

So it's not a surprise that — while continuing to write well-received fiction — Alarcón has also become a force in the field of reportage. (He currently is an assistant professor of broadcast journalism at the Journalism School.) While his stories have appeared in prestigious print venues (*Granta, Harper's, The New York Times Magazine*), Alarcón's most important contribution has been made in public radio. In 2012, he co-founded NPR's "Radio Ambulante," a Spanish-language podcast devoted to telling Latin American stories. "Latin America is a continent of narrators, and for us it was obvious to put such oral tradition together with radio," Alarcón told the online publication NiemanLab. Reminiscences about the 1980s' "friki" Cuban metal music scene mingle with reports from Venezuelan prison life; *Mother Jones* describes it as "*This American Life* en Español."

In his latest book of short stories, *The King Is Always Above the People* (Riverhead Books, $27), Alarcón continues to cover the themes that weave through today's grim headlines: migration, poverty, dislocation. The first story, "The Thousands," set in a nameless city, is a rousing account of a destitute community that builds itself a place to live from society's refuse. ("In a place like Lima there's a neighborhood like The Thousands in every direction," Alarcón told *Kirkus*.) This opening salvo is what he calls "an invocation," summoning up both a sense of place and his characters' disenfranchised yet hopeful state of mind. Excerpted here, the story is brief but intense, like a shot of *pisco*.

— Rose Kernochan BC'82



THE THOUSANDS

There was no moon that first night, and we spent it as we spent our days: your fathers and your mothers have always worked with their hands. We came in trucks, and cleared the land of rock and debris, working in the pale yellow glow of the headlights, deciding by touch and smell and taste that the land was good. We would raise our children here. Make a life here. Understand that not so long ago, this was nowhere. The land had no owner, and it had not yet been named. That first night, the darkness that surrounded us seemed infinite, and it would be false to say we were not afraid. Some had tried this before and failed — in other districts, on other fallow land. Some of us sang to stay awake. Others prayed for strength. It was a race, and we all knew it. The law was very clear: while these sorts of things were not technically legal, the government was not allowed to bulldoze homes.

We had until morning to build them.

The hours passed, and by dawn, the progress was undeniable, and with a little imagination one could see the bare outlines of the place this would become. There were tents made of tarps and sticks. There were mats of woven reeds topped with sewn-together rice sacks, and sheets of pressboard leaning against the scavenged hoods of old cars. Everything the city discarded we'd been saving for months in preparation for this first night. And we worked and we worked, and for good measure spent the last hours of that long night drawing roads on the earth, just lines of chalk then, but *think of it, just think* . . . We could see them—the avenues they would be — even if no one else could. By morning, it was all there, this ramshackle collection of odds and ends, and we couldn't help but feel pride. When we finally stopped to rest, we realized we were cold, and on the soft slope of the hill, dozens of small fires were built, and we warmed ourselves, each taking comfort in it, in our numbers, in this land we had chosen. The morning dawned pale, the sky scoured clean and cloudless. "It's pretty," we said, and yes, the mountains were beautiful that morning.

They still are. The government arrived before noon and didn't know what to do. The bulldozers came, and we stood arm in arm, encircling what we had built, and did not move. "These are our homes," we said, and the government scratched its febrile head. It had never seen houses like ours — our constructions of wire and aluminum, of quilts and driftwood, of plastic tarps and rubber tires. It came down off its machines to inspect these works of art. We showed the government the places we'd made, and eventually it left. "You can have this land," it said. "We don't want it anyway."

The newspapers wondered where the thousands had come from. How we had done it. And the radio asked as well, and the television sent cameras, and little by little we told our story. But not all of it. We saved much for ourselves, like the words of the songs we sang, or the content of our prayers. One day, the government decided to count us, but it didn't take long before someone decided the task was impossible, and so new maps were drawn, and on the empty space that had existed on the northeastern edge of the city, the cartographers now wrote *The Thousands*. And we liked the name because numbers are all we ever had.

Of course, we are many more than that now.

From THE KING IS ALWAYS ABOVE THE PEOPLE by Daniel Alarcón, published by Riverhead Books, an imprint of Penguin Publishing Group, a division of Penguin Random House, LLC. Copyright © 2017 by Daniel Alarcón.

alumni news





LEON WU '20

Contents

38 CCAA Message

39 Lions + Newsmakers
Steven Waldman '84;
Andrea Young '06, GSAS'12

42 Bookshelf
Feast: True Love in and out of the Kitchen,
by Hannah Howard '09

44 Class Notes
Just Married!

83 Obituaries
Steven P. Marcus '48, GSAS'61;
Lawrence K. Grossman '52

88 The Last Word

LIFE'S A BEACH!

Forget Coney Island and the Rockaways — when the weather gets warm, students seeking some rays turn the Steps into the affectionately nicknamed "Low Beach." It's the perfect place to soak up the sun while hanging out with classmates — beach towel not required!

Connections Make a Community

By Michael Behringer '89

At this year's Class Day ceremony, I had the privilege of addressing graduating seniors on behalf of the Columbia College Alumni Association (CCAA). I shared with them a motto of my fraternity, Phi Gamma Delta: "Not for college days alone." It's a similar sentiment to that made by Dean James J. Valentini when he observed in his own remarks that while we are students for just four years, we will be alumni for the rest of our lives.

Both express a comparable insight. Our Columbia College experience is not limited to the time we spent on campus. It develops and unfolds over the course of many years, and grows to include not only classmates and friends we encountered during our studies, but also the worldwide alumni community.

As a student, I welcomed the chance to meet alumni and, as an alumnus, I'm equally excited to meet students. Fostering these student-alumni connections is one of the CCAA's top goals. These relationships not only strengthen our College community, but also extend the College experience well beyond our days on campus.

The Student-Alumni Journey Committee, chaired by **Dan Tamkin '81** and **Neda Navab '08,** strives to bring alumni and students together at targeted programming and events throughout the year. Partnering with the Alumni Office, the committee hosted and supported a number of well-attended events this past year including Bagel Breaks, Sundaes on Tuesday, and several student-alumni lunches and dinners.

CCAA Board of Directors members, and alumni, were a visible presence this spring at the Senior Dinner, the Senior Toast for graduating women and the Alumni Parade of Classes at Class Day. Each of these events afforded an opportunity for alumni to meet Class of 2018 members and officially welcome them to the ranks of alumni.

As for the College's newest alumni, their journey began even before they arrived on campus four years ago. Each year, the CCAA supports the Summer Send-Off series, whereby alumni host — at their home or office — receptions at which incoming Columbia College and Columbia Engineering students and their families can meet other local incoming classmates, current students and alumni. These popular gatherings (more than 20 are held worldwide) are an opportunity for the students and their families to mingle with other Columbians where they live, and ask questions and compare notes, all in a casual social environment. For many, these receptions are their first introduction to the larger College community and provide an opportunity to make connections before move-in day.



EILEEN BARROSO

Welcoming Emily Lavine '18 to the ranks of alumni.

This summer, in our town of Greenwich, Conn., my wife and I hosted students and alumni for pizza and cupcakes at our home. This was our second year hosting a send-off. It was especially enjoyable to personally welcome the children of classmates, friends and neighbors to the Columbia family.

At these receptions, and at the many other student-alumni events I take part in, I'm always struck by how interested students are in meeting alumni. Whether to discuss studies, hear about an alum's journey after Columbia or just to learn what Columbia was like back in the day, there is a real desire to connect with earlier generations and to be part of the larger College community. At our reception, I noticed how many alumni exchanged contact info with students, parents and one another.

I thank all the alumni who were ambassadors for the College by hosting or attending these send-offs. And there are still a few remaining this summer. Please consider attending one in your area or hosting one next year (cc-seas.columbia.edu/sendoff).

Looking ahead, Convocation is scheduled for August 26. President Lee C. Bollinger, Valentini and the CCAA will welcome the Class of 2022 at this inspiring ceremony, which is the culmination of Orientation. All alumni are invited to participate in the proceedings and to march in the Alumni Procession (college.columbia.edu/alumni/events/event/alumni-procession-convocation-2018).

For more information on these events, or other ways to connect with students, feel free to contact me at mpbehringer@gmail.com or Eric Shea, director, Columbia College alumni relations, at eric.shea@columbia.edu.

I hope to see you soon.

ROAR!



JÖRG MEYER

A Champion for Community Journalism

By Lambeth Hochwald

Steven Waldman '84 is bringing back small-town journalism. The veteran reporter and entrepreneur watched for years as community newspapers struggled and shrank and folded. In 2009, he authored a landmark report for the Federal Communications Commission about the implications of their collapse. "When you don't have enough good local journalists, there's no accountability for elected officials and people who might have polluted drinking water without even knowing it," Waldman says. "It's disaster on a local level and on a democracy level."

Enter Report for America, Waldman's nonprofit — launched shortly after the 2016 presidential election — that aims to reverse the damage. Modeled after AmeriCorps, RFA is a fellowship program framed as a call to public service. The goal is to install 1,000 journalists in understaffed newsrooms by 2022.

Waldman's role as co-founder has a College connection. As an editor of *Spectator,* his goal was always to emphasize reporting on hyperlocal topics. "I felt that we really had to cover Columbia as a community," Waldman says. "From fire violations to curriculum changes, we were right there with our reporters, because if we didn't do that, no one else would."

That job also taught Waldman the power of journalism.

"We very much viewed our jobs as holding the administration accountable in a respectful but firm way," he says. "I remember doing a package on wasteful administrative spending, meeting with

the president and having him accuse us of Nixonian tactics. He probably didn't realize we were post-Nixon so that insult didn't scar us as much as it would have an earlier generation."

Waldman's relationship with the University began as a youngster growing up on Long Island — his mother graduated from the Journalism School and subscribed to the *Columbia Journalism Review*. In high school, he was an editor at his school newspaper and headed to Morningside Heights every year to attend the Columbia Scholastic Press Association conference. Those visits — and a desire to work for *Spectator* — sealed his interest in the College. "I might be one of the few people who decided to go to Columbia because of the school paper," he says. Waldman ended his *Spectator* career as the editor-in-chief and publisher. "The paper was my life," says Waldman, who is now on *Spectator*'s Board of Trustees.

"I might be one of the few people who decided to go to Columbia because of the school paper."

After graduation, Waldman worked at *U.S. News* and *Newsweek*, and certain observations from those days led to him founding his first company, Beliefnet, a website that focused on faith and spirituality, in 1999. "Every time we put religion on a *Newsweek* cover, sales would go up," he says. "I thought that was fascinating. I'm in an interfaith marriage — I'm Jewish and my wife is Protestant — so around 1997, 1998, I was really thinking a lot about religion, personally and professionally."

In 2007, Waldman sold Beliefnet — by then the largest multi-faith spirituality website — to News Corp. He stayed at the site for a few years until Julius Genachowski '85, an old friend from his *Spectator* days, became Barack Obama '83's first FCC chair, in 2009. Soon after, Genachowski asked Waldman to serve as a senior advisor.

Waldman spent two years at the FCC before creating his next two businesses: In addition to RFA, he launched LifePosts, a site that aims to preserve life stories digitally (whether via an online memorial, obituary or tribute biography). "With LifePosts I was thinking about ways to create revenue streams for local media while, on a spiritual level, I could solve the horrible problem that millions of people were leaving the earth without having their stories recorded or told," he says.

Since RFA's launch, hundreds of journalists have applied. It's currently in its pilot stage, with three reporters in Appalachia and nine more placed in locations across the country this past spring. "There's this passion among young people to help communities get better information and to save democracy in the process," says Waldman, who lives in Brooklyn, N.Y., with his wife and has two sons.

In a way, the work he's doing today is the ultimate give-back for Waldman, who believes that it's imperative for communities to view hyperlocal reporting as something that's as essential as local libraries, museums and hospitals.

"Journalism has been great to me," he says. "It feels like all of my experiences have pointed me in this direction, so it feels right to do whatever I can to help community journalism and solve the local news crisis."

Lambeth Hochwald *is a New York City–based writer and editor and has been an adjunct professor of journalism at NYU's Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute since 2001.*

Prizewinner Andrea Young '06 is Expanding Physics' Horizons

By Christine Yu '99

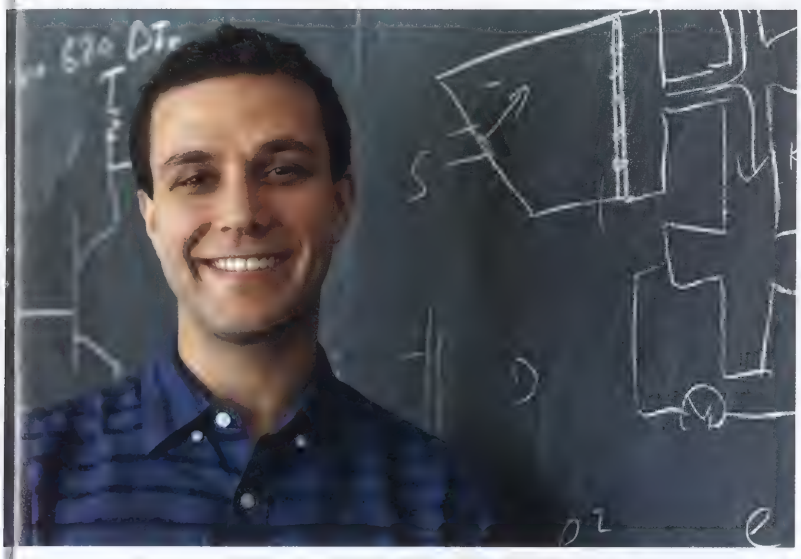
As a child in Washington, D.C., **Andrea Young '06, GSAS'12** liked to figure out how things worked. If you threw a ball, he could predict where it would land. "The idea that the world has a rational underlying machinery has always appealed to me," he says.

Today, Young has moved well beyond playground experiments. An assistant professor at UC Santa Barbara, he recently won the 2018 New Horizons in Physics Prize, which goes to those who've made significant contributions to the field early in their career; Young was one of three honored this year. "It's nice to be recognized," he says. You don't go into physics for the money or the fame."

Young's pioneering work is with graphene, a two-dimensional material derived from graphite. Although graphene is only a single-atom thick, it's stronger than steel and has unique electronic properties. Young and his colleagues stack multiple sheets of graphene or other two-dimensional materials — akin to trying to layer sheets of plastic wrap one on top of the other, without any bumps — to create objects called van der Waals heterostructures. These structures allow scientists to observe new states of matter that don't exist in three dimensions.

Physicists are excited about the potential of Young's work to understand and observe phenomena that so far have only been described in mathematical equations and theories.

"The basic physics questions we're interested in understanding are, 'What kind of matter can exist? What makes one thing different from another?'" Young says. In their search for answers, Young and his colleagues build electrical devices from the tiny heterostructures they've made. They place the devices in severe conditions, like extremely cold temperatures and strong magnetic fields, and measure their electrical, magnetic and thermal signals



SONIA FERNANDEZ / UC SANTA BARBARA

and surface properties. Since the laws of physics function differently in two dimensions as compared to three, these experiments shed light on fundamental principles of quantum mechanics — the laws of physics that underlie the natural world and the way atoms behave — and potentially lead to new theories.

Young laid the foundation for his work with graphene at Columbia, where he earned a B.A. in physics and mathematics as well as an M.A. and a Ph.D. "It was a very special time in my career," he says. "Columbia was the center of the universe for this type of physics, especially while I was a Ph.D. student. There was a lot of energy and ideas."

Living in New York City was also a good way to balance his long days in the lab. "The idea that at 3 in the morning I could get something to eat, get a drink or find human life was psychologically very useful for me during that 10 years," he says.

After getting his Ph.D., Young was a visiting scientist at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel and a Pappalardo Fellow at MIT. He's received numerous honors, including the 2016 William L. McMillan Award, the 2016 Packard Fellowship for Science and Engineering and the 2017 Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship. In 2015, Young traded East Coast life for Santa Barbara, where he now lives with his wife and son.

Young is still interested in figuring out how things work. In the long term, that something is quantum computing, a holy grail of technology that promises to process extraordinary amounts of information and solve complex problems that regular computers can't. Young's part — through his experiments — is to find a way to protect quantum information and help create a stable quantum bit ("qubit"), the basic foundation for this type of computing.

To be honest, most days any possible applications to quantum computing seem a very long way away, he says. "But then there is a saying that people overestimate what can be done in three years and underestimate what can be done in 10."

So what keeps him motivated? "Seeing something new pop up in your measurement is very exciting, and having a puzzle — say, some new piece of data you don't understand — to think about is very engaging. The slog is worth it for the thrills when, every so often, something works."

Christine Yu '99 *is a freelance writer in Brooklyn, N.Y.*

newsmakers

David Chubak '02 was named to *Crain's New York Business*' 2018 40 Under 40 list, while **Sam Waldo '10** was named to the 2018 *Forbes'* 30 Under 30 – Asia list in the social entrepreneurs category.

On April 16, *The New York Times* received a Pulitzer Prize for public service for the reporting — led by **Jodi Kantor '96** and Megan Twohey — that uncovered sexual abuses in Hollywood. The *Times* shared the honor with *The New Yorker*, whose reporting on the same subject was led by Ronan Farrow.

Olivier Knox '92 became the president of the White House Correspondents Association in July.

Lions roared at the 72nd Tony Awards on June 10. Playwright **Tony Kushner '78**'s *Angels in America* triumphed in the Best Revival of a Play category, while **Steven Chaikelson '89, SOA'93, LAW'93,** associate producer for *The Band's Visit*, won big when the show nabbed the coveted Best Musical award. Composer **Tom Kitt '96** received a nomination for Best Orchestrations for his work on *SpongeBob SquarePants: The Musical*.

Nick Vita '95 received an Innovative Disruptor Award at the TriBeCa Film Festival in April.

On May 11, *The Nation* named **Atossa Araxia Abrahamian '08, JRN'11** its senior editor.

On May 21, Netflix announced that it had signed a multiyear deal with President **Barack Obama '83** and Michelle Obama. Netflix reports that the Obamas' agreement will "potentially includ[e] scripted series, unscripted series, docu-series, documentaries, and features."

Benjamin Greenbaum '97, GSAS'06 is one of seven winners of a 2018 Pershing Square Sohn Prize for Young Investigators in Cancer, while **John Osburg '97** has been named to the Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program Class of 2018.

Jennifer Kidwell '00 appeared on *The New York Times*' list of the 25 best American plays in the last 25 years for *Underground Railroad Game*, which she co-authored and in which she co-starred.

Playwright **Katori Hall '03**'s new show, *Tina* — a musical about Tina Turner — opened on April 17 at London's Aldwych Theatre.

bookshelf



Hannah Howard '09 Serves Up a Feast in Debut Memoir

By Yelena Shuster '09

Some girls write their deepest secrets in a private diary. When **Hannah Howard '09** was 11, she created a 'zine recounting all her cringe-worthy crushes and pre-teen angst for anyone to read. "It was all my open heart, just bleeding across the page," she recalls.

Her debut memoir, *Feast: True Love in and out of the Kitchen* (Little A, $24.95), is no different.

Most people would be terrified of letting the world know about deeply revealing things like eating disorders or abusive relationships. But by Howard's own admission, she has always had "this strange compulsion" to share vulnerable, personal events in writing.

"I just always love to take the adventures, and amazingness and messiness of life, and turn it into stories. So, even though it was terrifying, it also felt very natural," she says.

Howard's vulnerability more than pays off in *Feast*, which chronicles her rise through the ranks of the New York City restaurant scene — all the while binging and starving herself. The bildungsroman explores how a foodie makes peace with food, how it is both her greatest love and worst nightmare.


VLAD KFRG

We see Howard develop her hatred for her thighs when she's just 12 and follow her coming of age as she takes us behind the buzzy scenes at the Michelin-starred Picholine and critically adored Casellula. She thirsts for love and hungers for acceptance, fighting the drug of "bad" food and bad men — eventually quitting both thanks to an AA-like recovery group. The memoir is as much a love affair with food, and the chefs and grocery scions that make up its world, as it is a love affair with NYC.

The book originated with personal essays she wrote as a creative writing and anthropology major at the College. Indeed, Columbia is a major supporting character — it is her escape from what she perceives as Baltimore's suburban monotony, an Ivy League haven where her intellectual ambitions won't be derided but championed. She recounts meeting her best friend, Ursula Kwong-Brown '10, at the outdoor orientation program before freshman year, cooking at literary society Alpha Delta Phi (ADP) on the old-school, 12-burner Vulcan and writing notes about Derrida and Lacan between reams of pages of calorie logs: "I have lost and gained the mass of a small army. But mostly, I have lost myself."

Howard held nothing back, surprising even those closest to her. "Hannah always had so much going on in her life: older boyfriends, so many cool internships, being president of ADP. She seemed quintessentially cool," recalls Kwong-Brown. "It's a little strange for me to read her book and realize just how vulnerable she was feeling, because that's not the way that anyone perceived her."

The College is still a part of Howard's story. She says she will never forget her "Techniques of the Short Story" class with professor (and author) Sam Lipsyte, who described her debut as "a gripping, moving memoir, a book that lives up its name."

"Around graduation, he told me, 'Don't stop writing,'" Howard says. "It really stuck with me and touched me, and I thought, 'Can't let him down. I gotta keep writing.'"

She also had a fateful "Senior Poetry Workshop" with Professor Josh Bell. "One of the things he taught me is making action happen, which is really part of something I struggle with in fiction or nonfiction," Howard says. "Josh would always say, 'Oh, there has to be a turn, there has to be a surprise.' So, even in the microcosm of poems, in a way, something did have to happen. There did have to be plot."

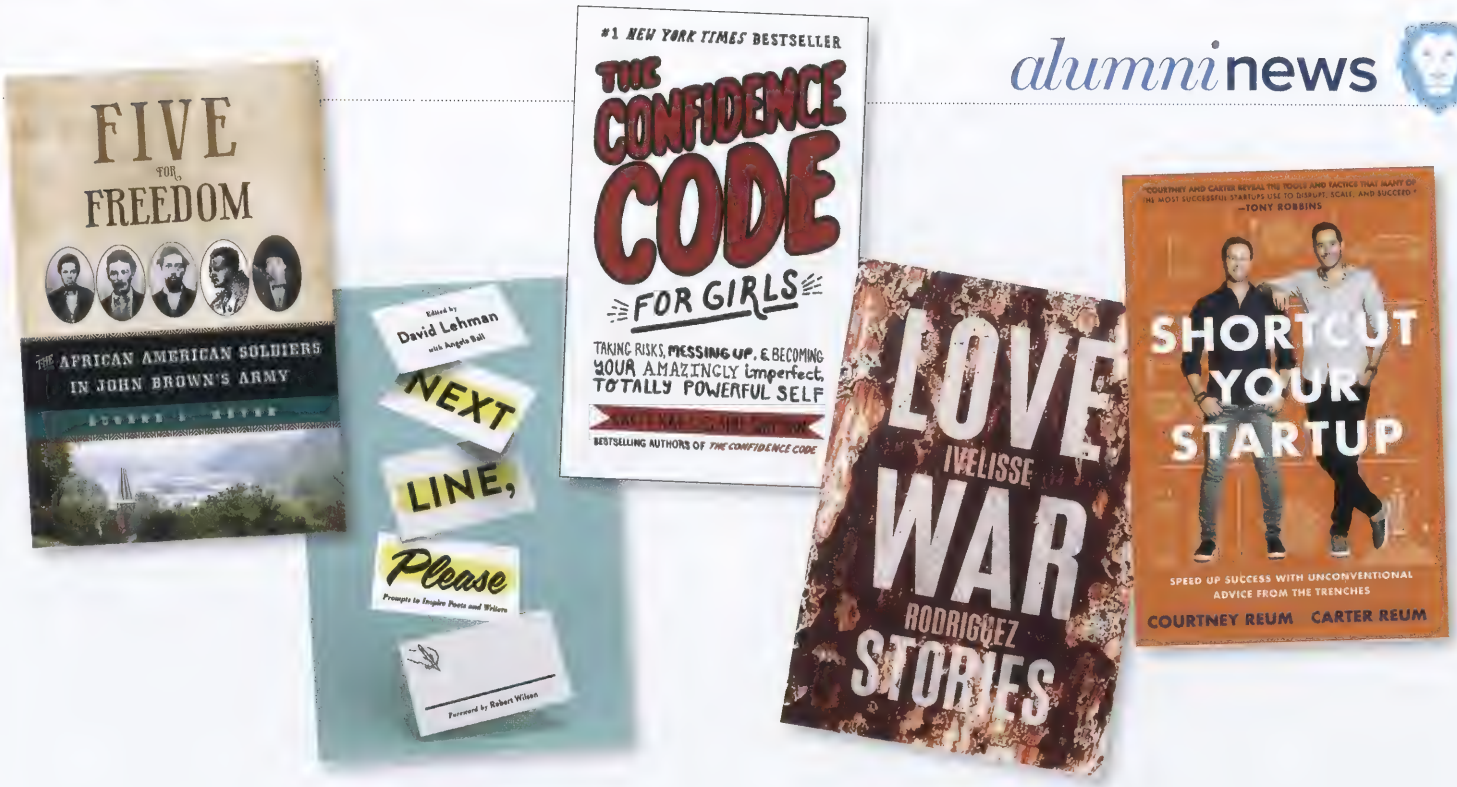
Howard continued writing after graduating, freelancing for outlets like American Express and cooking up the copy at Dean & DeLuca. A coworker at New York Natives, where she was a columnist, introduced her to his agent, who signed her after reading 50 pages of sample chapters. Together they created a proposal, which was rejected by 15 publishers.

And then somebody finally wanted it, and that somebody happened to be poet Morgan Parker '10 — with whom Howard had taken Bell's poetry class — and who was now an editor at Amazon's literary fiction and nonfiction imprint Little A. "Because it's such a personal, vulnerable memoir, working with somebody I knew just felt like a good idea, and it did turn out to be," Howard says. "They gave me a lot of TLC, but then I had the draw of Amazon to sell and market the books."

Her advice to future aspiring Hannahs is to "sit at your laptop and write even when it hurts."

The hurt is worth it, she promises: "Even now I get nervous about how the book is doing in the world, and I think that the real answer is: If a few people read something and feel less alone, and it changes something in them, then it's totally worth it."

Yelena Shuster '09 *has written for* The New York Times, Cosmopolitan, InStyle *and more. She founded and runs TheAdmissionsGuru.com, where she edits admissions essays for high school, college and graduate school applications.*



Shakespeare, Line by Line: A Companion to the Arden Edition *by Arthur Bernstein '57.* The author, a teacher of adult education at Stony Brook University, considers 10 of the Bard's plays, integrating interpretations by some of the leading Shakespearean scholars into a single coherent discussion (CreateSpace Publishing, $10).

Five for Freedom: The African American Soldiers in John Brown's Army *by Eugene L. Meyer '64.* Meyer, a former *Washington Post* reporter, tells the true story of five brave black men who were part of the raid on Harper's Ferry — an event historians agree was a catalyst to the Civil War (Chicago Review Press, $26.99).

Next Line, Please: Prompts to Inspire Poets and Writers *edited by David Lehman '70.* This compilation of Lehman's weekly column on the *American Scholar* website provides playful exercises designed to unlock the imagination (Cornell University Press, $18.95).

Salt: Poems in Catalan *translated by Clyde Moneyhun '76.* Writing in the *menorquí* dialect of his native Catalan, poet Ponç Pons celebrates "the things that sustain us and bind us to life: memory, language, affections, and our connection with the earth" (Francis Boutle Publishers, $59.69).

James Baldwin: The FBI File by *William Maxwell '84.* Baldwin's 1,884-page FBI file, covering 1958–74, was the largest compiled on any African-American artist of the Civil Rights era. This book reproduces more than 100 of the never-before-published documents, bringing renewed attention to bureau surveillance (Arcade Publishing, $22.99).

A Story for Louise *by Eric Lanzieri '85.* The true story of how Lanzieri found relatives in Scafati, Italy, nearly 50 years after his grandmother's last contact, using only verbal family history (Lulu Publishing, $9.99).

Lifting the Turtle *by J.D. Scrimgeour '86.* A collection of poems that explore the idea of community, and balance the tension between humans' desire for connection and a sense of being an outsider looking in. Scrimgeour writes, "I do not love words, but I consider them friends" (Turning Point, $20).

The Confidence Code for Girls: Taking Risks, Messing Up, and Becoming Your Amazingly Imperfect, Totally Powerful Self *by Katty Kay and Claire Shipman '86.* The pair who wrote two *New York Times* bestsellers is back with a guide that shows tween girls the route to becoming bold, brave and fearless (HarperCollins, $14.99).

Little Sid: The Tiny Prince Who Became Buddha *by Ian Lendler '96.* Lendler's picture book for ages 4–8 tells the story of a spoiled young prince named Siddhartha who sets off on a quest to find personal happiness (First Second, $17.99).

Love War Stories *by Ivelisse Rodriguez '97.* This collection of short stories about desire, grief and betrayal earned high praise from National Book Award-nominated novelist Cristina García: "At its best, it is sublime. Brava to Ivelisse Rodriguez for a stunning debut!" (The Feminist Press at CUNY, $16.95).

Good and Gone *by Megan Blakemore '99.* In Blakemore's latest novel for young adults, three teens take a road trip to find a reclusive rock star while grappling with tough issues like rape and mental illness (HarperTeen, $17.99).

Shortcut Your Startup: Speed Up Success with Unconventional Advice from the Trenches *by Courtney Reum '01 and Carter Reum '03.* The Reum brothers — former investment bankers and current successful operators and investors — offer this practical playbook for entrepreneurs looking to maximize any business venture (Gallery/Jeter Publishing, $26).

Abject Performances: Aesthetic Strategies in Latino Cultural Production *by Letitia Alvarado '04.* Alvarado, an assistant professor of American studies at Brown, examines models of Latino art and performance that shun mainstream standards of "respectability" and instead feature negative aspects such as shame and unbelonging (Duke University Press, $94.95).

Writing to the World: Letters and the Origins of Modern Print Genres *by Rachael Scarborough King '06.* King examines how the form and content of four genres that emerged during the 18th century — the newspaper, the periodical, the novel and the biography — borrowed from letters (The Johns Hopkins University Press, $44.95).

The Wonder Down Under: The Insider's Guide to the Anatomy, Biology, and Reality of the Vagina *by Dr. Nina Brochmann '10* and *Ellen Støkken Dahl.* A comprehensive guide to the female anatomy from two Oslo-based sexual health professionals (Quercus, $26.99).

The Suicide Club *by Rachel Heng '11.* Heng's first novel is set in a futuristic New York City where human organs are bought and sold like stocks and people with genetic perfection have the potential to live forever (Henry Holt & Co., $27).

The House of Impossible Beauties: A Novel *by Joseph Cassara '12.* Cassara's debut, named "Most Anticipated Book of 2018" by BuzzFeed, takes place in the colorful Harlem drag ball scene of 1980s New York (Ecco, $26.99).

—Jill C. Shomer

classnotes



DIANE BONDAREFF

Reunion 2018 brought alumni of all ages back to Morningside Heights for a weekend of Columbia camaraderie.

1942

Melvin Hershkowitz
22 Northern Ave.
Northampton, MA 01060-2310
DrMelvin23@gmail.com

I start these notes with best wishes and congratulations to our Class Notes editor, Annie Heatwole JRN'09, on her recent marriage. She assures me that she will continue in her work at *CCT*, where she has been an outstanding editor in recent years. Good luck, Annie!

[Editor's note: And thank you for all your hard work writing this column, Dr. H!]

Our honorary classmate Thomas Vinciguerra '85, JRN'86, GSAS'90 called me in early March to report that he has been named a Visiting Scholar to edit the collected Columbia Seminar essays for publication in 2020. Tom has been an active supporter of the Philolexian Society and is an acclaimed author of several works, including *Cast of Characters: Wolcott Gibbs, E. B. White, James Thurber, and the Golden Age of The New Yorker,* his 2015 history of *The New Yorker* and some of its famous writers. Tom was elected to honorary membership in the Class of 1942 as a tribute to his long friendships with **Gerald Green**, Dr. **Herbert Mark** (both deceased in 2006) and this author. Congratulations to Tom on this prestigious appointment, a well deserved recognition of his devotion to Columbia.

I have been in touch with Dr. John Robbins, son of the late Dr. **William Robbins.** John lives in Mount Dora, Fla., and though not an alumnus, is a Loyal Lion. He sent me a copy of a December 1940 issue of *Spectator*, which he found among his father's papers, announcing an awards ceremony in the Lions Den for our 1940 football team. This event might have been a precursor to our now-established Annual Football Awards Dinner. Our 1940 football team, with our great All-American quarterback Paul Governali '43 (now deceased), defeated Georgia 19–13 and Wisconsin 7–6. My friend **Phil Bayer,** a great halfback, won the Georgia game with our last touchdown. Phil was a decorated WWII Marine hero, killed in the invasion of Peleliu.

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of *CCT* prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of *CCT*, its class correspondents, the College or the University. By submitting to Class Notes, you acknowledge that the text is eligible to appear in print as well as on CCT Online and in archives.

Our basketball team had a losing record in 2017 but returns with almost all personnel for 2018 — including our Second Team All-Ivy Point Guard, Mike Smith '20. This team will improve and is capable of contending for the Ivy League Championship. Last year's Ivy League champion, Penn, defeated Harvard in the post-season Ivy League Tournament and then went to the NCAA Big Dance, where they lost to Kansas in the first round.

Football prospects for 2018 appear bright, with multiple returning starters on both offense and defense. Coach Al Bagnoli will need to find a new starting quarterback to replace Anders Hill '17 and a new running back to replace Chris Schroer '17. We could then compete with a strong Yale team for the Ivy League Championship.

Dr. **Gerald Klingon** continues to function well at 97 in his Manhattan apartment. We talk on the phone almost every evening. He is very attentive to the Columbia football, baseball and basketball teams, and to the current turbulent political scene. He and I (now 95) are both dealing with short-term memory loss, mainly forgetting names of people and places, but we are coping with this pretty well.

Kind regards and good wishes to all surviving classmates.

1943

G.J. D'Angio
201 S. 18th St., #1818
Philadelphia, PA 19103
dangio@earthlink.net

My wife, Audrey Evans, and I were in the United Kingdom for two weeks in March, where Audrey was invested as a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. After visits to friends and family in Scotland and in England, we spent a weekend in London. It probably being our last hurrah in that city, we spent the weekend at our favorite hotel: Durrant on George Street. Highly recommended; it has more the feeling of a men's club than a hotel. The two-week visit was a success, despite the huge minus of the weather in Scotland during the first week: snow, sleet and cold, cold, cold.

Proud parent note: My son, Carl, is one up on me. He has been named Professor of Pediatrics with Unlimited Tenure at the University of Rochester. It is the highest academic rank at UR, where he is chief of neonatology. It is the equivalent of University Professor, a level I never attained, here at Penn.

Bernard Weisberger reports: "Hello, surviving classmates, 'we happy few,' so to speak. I wrote last in December, I think, shortly after my wife, Rita, left for three months in the warmth of sunny Surfside, Fla. When she returned a week ago I called on Shakespeare to greet her: 'How like a Winter hath my absence been. From thee, the pleasure of the fleeting year,' I said as she was unpacking her bag.

"There you are — we've been married 26 years on the day of this writing, and I am still trying to impress my girlfriend with my memory for poetry. Of course, it's an odd memory that preserves lines that I have read and reread many times years ago but won't tell me where I left my glasses a moment ago. If you sense in this opening the effort of a man with few events to report trying to inflate them into something readable, you're pretty much on the mark. But it gives me pleasure as always to be in contact with you all every 90 days or so, and so on and on I go.

"I didn't join Rita for the entire winter for various reasons, one of which is an increasing reluctance to travel, even at the cost of a lot of shivering. After a week's opening visit to her, I came back in time to ring in the frosty New Year with my daughter and son-in-law who live nearby, and then returned to my principal current occupation, which I mentioned in my last letter. I am writing, mainly for family and friends, a memoir of the 22 years of my life after discharge from the Army. It also gives me a project to get me out of bed in the morning (not that there aren't plenty of enjoyable leisure activities and obligatory chores to fill the day). I nonetheless feel a need for at least a couple of hours to work on a piece of writing, even if it's not destined for print and doesn't have a deadline attached — that makes it even more of a pleasure. Added to that is the fact that, as I research and write, I am reliving happy days as a graduate student in history — carefree, interested in what I was learning and writing a dissertation on Civil War reporters that involved lively reading in the newspapers of the time.

"I'm glad to get away now from the subject of 'me' and into family news, which is that Rita's grandson got married in New York on February 18. I went to Surfside, Fla., the preceding Sunday to spend the second session of sunshine with Rita, then we flew north together and richly enjoyed the wedding. It's almost always the same among Rita's clan — a very traditional and moving ceremony followed by a big dinner and intervals of vigorous dancing to deafening klezmer music. The next day, after a couple of visits to old friends, I flew back to high literary aspirations and low temperatures.

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DESIGNATIONS

BC	Barnard College
BUS	Columbia Business School
CP	Pharmaceutical Sciences
DM	College of Dental Medicine
GS	School of General Studies
GSAPP	Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
GSAS	Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
HN	Institute of Human Nutrition
JRN	Graduate School of Journalism
JTS	Jewish Theological Seminary
LAW	Columbia Law School
LS	Library Service
NRS	School of Nursing
PH	Mailman School of Public Health
PS	College of Physicians and Surgeons
SEAS	The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
SIPA	School of International and Public Affairs
SOA	School of the Arts
SPS	School of Professional Studies
SW	School of Social Work
TC	Teachers College
UTS	Union Theological Seminary



Dr. Melvin Hershkowitz '42 (center) shared this photo of himself with Arthur Wellington '42 (left) and Donald McKeon '40 (right) in 1942 near Hartley Hall.

"That's my *Winter's Tale* (credit Shakespeare again) this time. At the time of writing (late March), I am very revved up for our 75th reunion, though I plan to probably only take part in whatever was going on during Saturday, June 2. Hope to meet more of you there as the fates allow and, if you can't be there, that you'll join with others in submitting stories of yourselves to this column.

"A Columbia nugget: George Templeton Strong (Class of 1838) was a lawyer, politician and office-holder of some renown in New York. He is remembered mostly for the meticulous diaries he kept before and during the Civil War years. They are packed with comments, observations and details of quotidian life during that tumultuous period. Ken Burns used the diaries extensively in preparing his docudrama of the Civil War. The multivolume diaries are in the files of the New-York Historical Society."

1944

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Dr. **Daniel Choy** PS'49 writes: "I graduated from Columbia College at 18, on D-Day. I was recently awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis *Who's Who*. My base of operations has always been New York City, except for two years in the Aero Medical Lab in the USAF, where I invented Aeroplast, the emergency burn dressing to be used after an atomic attack. I am providing in my will $2 million each to the Columbia University Medical Center Department of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery, for whatever research they wish, and the Department of Ophthalmology, for glaucoma research. Also, $1 million to the Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute, for mind expansion research. These bequests are to repay, in small measure, the fact that I was able to go through both Columbia College and P&S solely on scholarship. At one point, I had only $40 in my pocket. This is to encourage those who find themselves in my position. When you are down, the only way is up!"

Share your story, news or even a favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either the email address or postal address at the top of the column. Classmates would be glad to read about you, too!

1945

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Dr. **Lawrence Aronson** shared some of his life story: "Born 1926, NYU Medical School 1948 graduate. Pediatrician, family practice, double boards. Lovely wife, four children, nine grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren. U.S. Air Force captain. Reader of fiction and politics. Unitarian. Active, apprehensive Democrat. Retired 10 years. Age 92. Intermediate ballroom dancer. Long medical practice in Silicon Valley, Bay Area, Calif. Residence Los Altos, Bay Area, Calif. Admired immensely Professors Jacques Barzun '27, GSAS'32; Lionel Trilling (Class of 1925), GSAS'38; and Moses Hadas GSAS'30. Contemporary Civilization and Humanities were very enjoyable and opened up a better understanding of human history and culture. Colloquium discussions of great books at night also was a wonderful experience. Of course, being a pediatrician for many, many years in the small but rapidly developing city of Sunnyvale, Calif., before the development of many vaccines, for polio, meningitis and so forth, was also a unique, challenging and varied experience."

Share your story, news or even a favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either the email address or postal address at the top of the column. Classmates would be happy to read about you, too!

1946

Bernard Sunshine
165 W. 66th St., Apt. 12G
New York, NY 10023
bsuns1@gmail.com

I hope that all the members of the Class of '46 are having an enjoyable summer. Please send your news to either of the addresses above so that our Fall column is full. Best wishes to all.

1947

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Cyrus J. Bloom, who lives in Philadelphia, writes, "On March 3 I, along with members of his family and more than 100 of his friends, celebrated **Larry Friedland**'s 95th birthday at a grand birthday party at New York's Lotos Club. Thereafter, on March 13, Larry and I visited **Albert Burstein**, who was ailing and unable to attend, at his home in Tenafly, N.J."

Share your story, news or even a favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either the email address or postal address at the top of the column. Classmates would be happy to read about you, as well!

1948

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Share your story, news or even a favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either the email address or postal address at the top of the column. Classmates would be pleased to hear from you!

1949

John Weaver
2639 E. 11th St.
Brooklyn, NY 11235
wudchpr@gmail.com

Writing these notes at the end of a March "winter" — three nor'easters when we were meant to be welcoming spring! Only one of us has responded to my cry for a word or two: **Joe Russell** LAW'52. His letter follows. But first, a note on the season in which we find ourselves right now: Beginning in the spring we experienced an extraordinary expression of hope for the future. Very young but very dedicated children, on the cusp of adulthood, made their pain, their outrage and their resolve known to the nation and the world. Let us hope a goodly portion of those young folk make it to the campus as the next generation of Columbians.

We all must stay alert and take every opportunity to encourage participation in the noble experiment that is our democracy. And in that sense we can take, as an example, Joe, whose entire career has been highlighted by his devotion to the law. He recently endured some significant challenges of a surgical nature, which have afforded him the privilege of quiet recollection of his time on campus.

Joe writes: "Thanks, John, for calling me out of what seems to be hibernation! Warm regards to you and to all classmates who trouble to read this, and truly sorry that I cannot report any activities of interest (apart from some engaged in by my sons and grandson, of a personal nature). I sit here and remember with warmth (and some real sorrow) a small group of College classmates with whom I entered the Law School in September '49 and lunched with daily on the ground floor of Butler Library during our first year, and often in our second and third as well. All were close personal friends from disparate backgrounds and remain in warm memories held by both my wife and me. With me then were **Tom Beadie, George Lenz, Walter Schlotterbeck** and my moot-court partner **Bob Young.** Tom and I alone survive; he is a retired lawyer in Terre Haute, Ind., and I am a retired lawyer in Manhattan. We correspond irregularly, lament the state of the nation and chat on the phone, though not often. I have stayed moderately active as a public arbitrator for FINRA, but that seems to be slowing down, giving me more free time to read, which — after two surgeries during late December and late February — is much to be thankful for."

Gentlemen, we are all still capable of sharing and, as I have said, what we share has relevance. This is not a closed circle of '49ers. I am certain that a goodly portion of the recipients of our magazine read notes of classes other than their own. And now that we are among the very

longest standing contributors to this section, we are of considerable interest to the young alumni readership. I have this on reliable witness, given my son is the Class of '05.

Speak up!

1950

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

No news for this issue — please take a moment during the summer to send in a note. Your classmates want to hear from you. Be well!

1951

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Share your story, news or even a favorite Columbia College memory by sending it to either the email address or postal address at the top of the column. Classmates would be happy to learn what's new with you!

1952

Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
cct@columbia.edu

Irvin Herman shares a memory: "This was written to amuse my kids and grandkids, all of whom are much better athletes than I — lucky for them they inherited my wife Ginny's physical prowess. Shortly after I emailed this off, a copy of *CCT* was popped into my mailbox. I don't know if any remaining members of the 1950 lightweight football team would find this interesting.

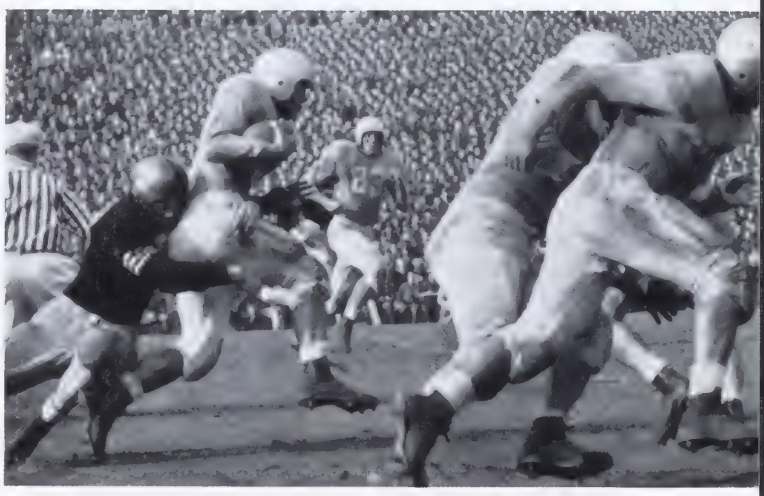
"Listening to an Audible book about the Ratification of the Constitution (a very long book with excruciating detail), there was mention of the Pennsylvania Assembly breaking off its deliberations to attend the Penn commencement. That reminded me of a Columbia football game I attended in Philadelphia, which then led me to a memory of playing lightweight football at Columbia.

"It was the first or second year of the team's organization. Coach Lou Little hated having us crowding his clubhouse at Baker Field and would growl at us. We secured our pads and uniforms from large boxes with piles of stuff. Our jerseys were of varying shades of blue and of varying types of cloth. I ended up with a wool jersey that must have been worn in that oft-cited Rose Bowl victory of the '30s. Pads and helmets varied also; there were even leather helmets in the boxes. We looked like a sandlot team. Our practice field was next to the piles of coal stored for University use — in fact, we had to play where the quarterback would throw a ball over the pile and the end would circle around to the other side of the mound.

"Adding to our amateurism, the coach was Carl Pell '50; he had been a great lineman. Carl was big but not necessarily the sharpest football strategist. My teammates and I weren't world beaters either. We played a T-formation offense with a man in motion (Lou Little might have created that). Halfway through the season we realized the man in motion always went to the opposite direction of the play. We were playing a man short.

"We also had a halfback who seemed to get knocked out every time he was tackled and another back, a thin guy (Frank Manchester '51, I think?), who looked like a Norman Rockwell illustration, wearing lineman's shoulder pads that were so wide he would get stuck trying to run through a hole in the line.

"Can't remember much about our schedule or how we did, but I remember our away game against Princeton. The 150-pound Columbia Lions sauntered onto the playing field, a variety of helmet types tossed over our shoulders held by their straps, varying shades of blue tops and differing colored pants. As we came out onto a beautifully manicured and professionally marked field, we saw all of the Princeton team's helmets lined up in a perfect row across the far side line. Then their team came out, trotting two at a time in perfect order, rapidly assembled in ranks wearing identical jerseys of orange and black — last year's varsity jerseys in fact — and they started coordinated warm-up calisthenics. We stood along the sidelines and watched with fascination. I think some of us might have been smoking (possibly a false memory to add to the effect).



This photo from the 1948 *Columbian* shows the 1947 Columbia-Army football game; it is captioned "Bill Olson ['49] picks up yardage against Army."

"Then the game. They massacred us. Can't remember the score but only recall snippets from my experience. I had never played football, never learned the plays and on offense had to ask what I should do. I played guard. I actually went out for the team on the behest of my roommate at the time (Steve Furst '53) and thought it a good way to test my physical aggressiveness.

"In any case I sort of held my own, although I remember a trap play. I, to my amazement, recognized it was a trap. When I found myself across the line without being blocked, I dropped to one knee to hold my position and sprung out to tackle as hard as I could the orange and black body running past me. Drove him into the ground. 'Hey, what you tackle me for?!,' he said. He was, of course, the leading blocker and the runner either dropped from exhaustion or might have been stopped by our linebackers — or he might still be running.

"My major contribution to our offense was a result of harassing the guard opposite me. Somewhere I had heard that insults could cause your opponent to err in anger. I accused him of having clean white buckskin shoes (an anathema in those days), social instead of academic activities or the like. It worked, but not as I had planned. Next play, following my insults when the ball was snapped, I charged. He stood and delivered a forearm to my head, dropping me not a little dazed. I heard the whistle: '15 yards for unnecessary roughness.'

"I was able to taunt him later with suitable irony. He had granted us our longest gain the entire game, and it only cost me a headache. My attempt for gridiron glory and honor had ended up in low comedy."

Donald Surr BUS'53 writes: "Hi, fellow members of the ancient Class of 1952. I often wonder how many of us are still around, particularly those who were fellow members of the Glee Club or who were fellow economics and business admin majors, who likely were in the same classes, or in that most enjoyable senior seminar in economics. Would love to hear from you at donald.surr@gmail.com."

Dudley Ferris writes: "Wish I could say something fitting for my compatriots of 1952. … With years accumulating I feel too young to be my age and must check up on my birth certificate. Must be an error in the year I was born.

"In April I was to be in NYC to see *Tosca* and then *The Iceman Cometh*. (I always drop by Columbia.) Tickets cost ridiculously more than in '52. The next month my wife and I were to travel to London to meet with Swiss friends, who once lived here in Scottsdale, Ariz. Who says I'm old? Japan in the fall!"

Dan Seemann writes: "I barely graduated from school I was such a bad student. I made no connections with any faculty or administrators. Today I have a Ph.D. and some great years at the University of Toledo."

Alvin Feder LAW'54 writes: "**Philip Bloom** LAW'54, my friend and classmate at both the College and the Law School, died on January 4, 2018, at his home in Miami Beach, Fla. Philip had been a Circuit Court judge in Miami until 2003, and a professor at University of Miami School of Law. He conducted a crowded 7:30 a.m. class in litigation skills program."

Howard Hansen writes: "Columbia Ends Army's Streak: On October 27, 1947, a historied football game took place at Baker Field — Columbia ended Army's 32-game winning streak 21–20. It was one of the all-time greatest college football upsets. I know, because I was there! Here is some background.

"After a four-year military high school background, with interest in attending West Point, I went to Bullis School in Silver Spring, Md., which mainly prepared students for attending the military academies.

"At Bullis, we were undefeated and declared National Prep School Champions. We were the only team to beat Army and Navy (and on their fields!) as well as Allentown H.S. (Pa.), ranked the number one high school football team in the United States.

"Back to Columbia-Army. After our Bullis team beat them, we had dinner with the cadet corps in their dining hall, which was overwhelmed with excitement. They had a bonfire outside and the entire corps was traveling to Columbia the next day.

"**Gerry Audette**, my Bullis teammate and future Columbia Honorable Mention All-American guard, plus our Bullis team, were given tickets by West Point to the big game. We sat behind the goal posts on the closed end of Baker Field.

"After Army scored its third touchdown, late in the second quarter (Rip Rowan went 84 yards for the score), Army's Jack Mackmull's extra point kick was wide left, and I had it in my hands, but someone behind me knocked it out. No big deal, I thought at the time, as it looked like Army was on its way to another victory, even though Columbia's score in the second quarter was the first one against Army in five games.

"Columbia controlled the second half with Gene Rossides '49 being constantly 'rushed and throwing off-balance' and Bill Swiacki BUS'48 making 'sensational and impossible' catches, with Lou Kusserow '49 scoring his last of two touchdowns in the game with six minutes left (and Ventan Yablonski TC'48 kicking the winning extra point). On Army's last drive to midfield, Kusserow's interception essentially ended the game.

"Some statistics: Rushing yards: Columbia, 100, Army, 302. Passing attempts: Columbia, 30, Army 10 (Rossides was 18–27). Passing yards, Columbia, 263, Army, 42. First downs, Columbia, 18, Army, 12. Fumbles, Columbia, 2, Army, 2. Yards penalized, Columbia, 30, Army, 74. Interceptions, Columbia, 2, Army 1.

"From *Spectator:* 'Pandemonium Hits Campus After Victory': 'Joy unmitigated, glorious joy, reigned in the Lions' heart. Columbia fans were still asking themselves if it was all a dream. The greatest point of conflict seemed to be whether it was the greatest football game in a decade … or of all time.

"'Nobody seemed to want to leave Baker Field after the victory. The Columbia rooters just stood in the stands reverently.'

"'A hundred or so got up enough presence of mind to splinter the goalposts, as even the gendarmes assigned pitched in with abandon.

"'Up in the stands during the fourth quarter, excitement reached such heights that a reported 2,349 lost the power of speech (and 34 their handkerchiefs!) and hundreds of minor bodily injuries from hilarious pummeling were noted.

"'Incidentally, the handkerchief routine, began by the Pointers across the field as a sign of derision, may well become a hard and fast tradition at Baker Field in future contests. The fans took diabolical joy out of waving back at the West Point stands when the tables were turned.'

"Back to Bullis. After graduation in June 1947, John Bateman, the line coach, called me and invited me to visit Lou Little on the campus when I returned to West Hempstead, L.I., for Easter break.

"I can remember it like it was last week. Mr. Little said, 'If you want the military to be your career, there is no finer institution than West Point. On the other hand, if you're going there just to put in your required years of service, then you are wasting a specialized education.'

"The rest is history!

"It is hard for me to believe and understand why Columbia's 1947 team is not in the Columbia University Athletics Hall of Fame (Swiacki, Bruce Gehrke '49, Rossides and Kusserow). Their record was 7–2, and more than double the number of players of any team in Columbia's history are in our Hall of Fame."

Richard Werksman '54 says, "One marvelous aspect of being an octogenarian has been the privilege and challenge of continuing to interview applicants to the College."

1953

Lew Robins
3200 Park Ave., Apt. 9C2
Bridgeport, CT 06604
lewrobins@aol.com

No news this quarter! *CCT*, and your classmates, would be happy to hear from you. Please consider sharing news about yourself, your family, your career and/or your travels — even a favorite College memory — by sending a note to either of the addresses at the top of this column. Be well!

1954

Bernd Brecher
35 Parkview Ave., Apt. 4G
Bronxville, NY 10708
brecherservices@aol.com

Hello again, men of '54. Next year at this time we will have marked our 65th anniversary since graduating from Columbia College, and will be closing in on our 70th year since first having met up on campus for Freshman Orientation week. In next issues of *CCT* we'll have more to tell about the bacchanalian blast that is being planned for the Class of Destiny to mark our reunion celebration the weekend of Thursday, May 30–Saturday, June 1, 2019. No, there will be no horseback rides nor any pin-the-donkey games, but if you join the Reunion Committee soon you will be able to help define the activities, speakers and themes of our event. Please email me at the address at the top of the column to join, ask questions, and make suggestions. This party is yours, mine, and ours.

Earlier this year, *The New York Times* reported on **Alvin K. Hellerstein** LAW'56: "A federal judge in New York tossed out a sweeping lawsuit that sought to make marijuana legal under federal law, ruling that the plaintiffs had failed to take the necessary first step of asking the Drug Enforcement Administration to remove cannabis from its list of dangerous substances."

The *Times* noted the 98-page lawsuit's legal and historical inclusions and Judge Hellerstein's 20-page opinion and that "in court, he appeared to agree with lawyers for the Justice Department, who maintained that if the plaintiffs wanted to legalize marijuana they should try to change the law."

The article, titled "Suit to Legalize Marijuana Nationwide Is Rejected," was published on February 27.

I'm always happy to hear from classmates who have not been back for so long. It's been a long time, but **Leo Bookman** writes us about a different kind of court: "The article in *CCT* [Winter 2017–18, "Roar, Lion, Roar"] about the championship basketball team and Coach Jack Rohan '53 brought back memories.

"When I played freshman baseball the coach was John Balquist, a wonderful man and a very good coach. When I moved up to the varsity in my sophomore year, Coach Balquist became the varsity coach. On that team was a gifted shortstop named Mitch Price '53, whom most of us remember as the star quarterback on the football team. Also on that team was a pitcher named Jack Rohan '53. Jack pitched very well until he developed arm trouble and couldn't continue. He was an excellent athlete and, as the *CCT* article mentioned, he had the most wins as the basketball coach. Good memories."

Our *Spectator* sports editor **Richard Werksman** LAW'58 also turns a bit nostalgic, and brings us up to date on some of his activities on behalf of alma mater. He writes, "One marvelous aspect of being an octogenarian has been the privilege and challenge

of continuing to interview applicants to the College. Invariably, these high school seniors bring to the interview not just experiences domestic and international that have broadened their outlooks on myriad topics but also the ability to express themselves articulately and maturely. Maybe their school counselors have screened out those who would not be seriously considered by warning about how difficult it is to get into Columbia."

Dick says that his "batting average has not been very good in getting my highly rated interviewees accepted, but I am glad I don't have to compete with these applicants for admission. To get a firsthand knowledge of the kind of sophisticated, articulate and accomplished young men and women who are applying, I encourage members of our class to serve the College and reward yourselves by offering to interview."

FYI: It's easy. Information about the Alumni Representative Committee can be found at college.columbia.edu/alumni/volunteer/alumni-interviewing. (Tell them Dick sent you!) Matter of fact, I likewise did just that in the early '60s, while I was a consultant at the University of Southern California; local alumni interviewers were hard to come by. I remember my first batch (all men at that time, of course) about each of whom, as requested, I sent back to Hamilton Hall detailed observations, life and school data, and suggestions, with my personal thumbs up or thumbs down decisions. You guessed it — half my acceptances were turned down, half my declinations were accepted. Of course, the Admissions Office and I agreed half the time. Not bad, I guess.

Saul Turteltaub LAW'57, like others now in a reflective mood, shares with us: "In 1950, when I entered the College, there were very few black men at the then–all-male school, about which I wonder now but did not wonder then. After going through my Class of 1954 yearbook, I sadly wonder no more. Out of approximately 500 members of the Class of 1954, perhaps 10 were black. Later, in my class at the Law School in 1957, there were approximately 200 students, but none were black. Shame on me for not noticing then and shame on me if I still had not noticed in 2018."

Thank you, Saul for sharing these thoughts. We look for others likewise to do so. And, in a more personal reflective mood, Saul sent me this confessional poem to share with the class:

Well Bernd, a lot of years since '54
I ain't that guy I was before
The hair is gone the hearing too
Hearing aids, not one but two
And getting up just kills my back
And then there was my heart attack
My hips and knees demand a cane
A wheelchair to the airoplane
But still unchanged is my small brain
It has always stayed insane.

Arnold Tolkin wants to assure us that while "2017 was a rough year, it passed and we look forward to a bright and rewarding future. We cruised in December on a new luxury vessel with no dining room, only specialty restaurants. We had plans to go to Cuba in May, where we were on our honeymoon the night that Castro took over from Batista. In the fall, we will fly to Spain and cruise back to Miami and extend it into the Caribbean for another 12 days. I am busy tracing my ancestors back to 15th-century Spain (at home) and I am in the fitness center in our new apartment building daily for at least one and a half hours doing cardio and stretching as well as balancing exercises."

Arnie, we want the details about any *autos da fé* six centuries ago. And our classmates want to know precisely what you two were doing on your honeymoon that led to the overthrow of Batista.

Have a good summer, all. Pay your taxes with a smile (those who extended to August), take your pills and do your exercises (stretching does not mean reaching for the gin), support our free press (buy at least one daily newspaper and actually read it), enjoy your kids and grandkids and great-grandkids (those who have them; others, appreciate your family and friends), go to the theater (not just to learn some new dirty words, which you can do now at the movies and TV), read some real books (if I had a Kindle I would definitely use it as a bookmark), think seriously about our 65th anniversary next year (sign up for the Reunion Committee right now and make some noise), talk often about Columbia (like it or not, the College helped make every one of us), remember the CORE, laugh a little, laugh a lot (see Turteltaub), talk to your dog (my wife, Helen, and I have seven grandchildren, seven granddogs and two grandpussycats, and they all talk to us), stay healthy (as you can), and ideally be wealthy and wise.

Gentlemen, as always, be well, be good, help cure the world, stay in touch often (don't wait for my email requests), and never forget. Excelsior!

1955

Gerald Sherwin
181 E. 73rd St., Apt. 6A
New York, NY 10021
gs481@juno.com

Much has been happening at Columbia College. The thread linking everything together is, of course, Dean James J. Valentini, beginning with his hosting of the annual Dean's Scholarship Reception on February 8 in Alfred Lerner Hall.

All alumni were invited back to Columbia for All-Class Reunion on June 2. It was a return to campus to attend Mini-Core Classes, talks with alumni and the dean, Affinity Receptions and tours around the beautiful campus, the neighborhood and Manhattanville.

Other campus events were the upbeat Varsity Show at the end of April; **Dave Stevens** would be proud of this group, with its original songs and lyrics. There was also a special luncheon with the 1955 crew in Faculty House. A plethora of guys attended the April 9 program: **Elliot Gross, Roland Plottel, Jesse Roth, Don Laufer** (who coordinated this whole affair), **Allen Hyman, Anthony Viscusi, Alfred Gollomp, Chuck Soloman** (who also does work for the Dental School) and **Dick Kuhn.**

The baseball season started, much to the happiness of **Ron McPhee** and **Jack Freeman.** The fencing team ended up second to Notre Dame in the National Championships — amazing results, as we finished second to a very large school. Other activities, in May, included Columbia College Class Day and University Commencement, the latter held in front of 50,000 people.

In addition to our classmate gatherings, **Ted Baker** and **Mike Goldstein** have been in touch celebrating their Ford Scholar reunion. **Harvey "Haji" Greenberg** is back from Europe after a joyous time out of the country.

Take care of yourselves, drink plenty of fluids, watch your diet. Most of all, be a good person.

Love to all! Everywhere!

1956

Robert Siroty
707 Thistle Hill Ln.
Somerset, NJ 08873
rrs76@columbia.edu

There was a spectacular luncheon in Boynton Beach, Fla., for Floridians, snowbirds, snowflakes and their Valentines on February 14. **Dave Goler, Gershon Vincow, Martin Mayer, Dan Link, Burt Sultan, Murray Eskenazi, Stan Manne, Mike Spett, Don Roth** and I spent a wonderful few hours together.

Don Roth is the author of a novel, *The Girl from Guantanamo.* Happily, he brought a few copies in



Members of the Class of 1956 gathered for lunch in March in New York City. Seated, left to right: Gordon Silverman '55, SEAS'56, Stephen Easton, Mark Novick, Ron Kapon, Peter Klein and Jesse Blumenthal. Standing, left to right: Bob Siroty, Jerry Fine, Ed Gordon, Sid Spanier, Ralph Kaslick and Buz Paaswell.



Members of the Class of 1956 gathered in February at a luncheon in Florida. Seated, left to right: Dave Goler, Dan Link, Bob Siroty and Stan Manne. Standing, left to right: Mike Spett, Gershon Vincow, Burt Sultan, Don Roth, Murray Eskenazi and Martin Mayer.

the trunk of his car and autographed them for those purchasing one.

In March, we gathered at Faculty House on campus — **Peter Klein, Sid Spanier, Mark Novick, Ron Kapon, Ralph Kaslick, Jerry Fine, Buz Paaswell, Stephen Easton, Jesse Blumenthal,** Gordon Silverman '55, SEAS'56, **Ed Gordon** and I filled the round table.

Ron Kapon represented us at the annual Dean's Scholarship Reception on February 8. We received beautiful letters from the recipients of the CC'56 scholarships, expressing their appreciation for our contribution to their education.

I got some responses from Californians who will be with us in spirit at reunion: **Bob Steinfeld, Morton Jaffe** and **Art Salzfass.**

By the time you read this, summer will be upon us. Look for emails about future class activities. Keep the news flowing.

1957

Herman Levy
7322 Rockford Dr.
Falls Church, VA 22043
hdlleditor@aol.com

Bob Lipsyte JRN'59 reports a mini-renaissance at 80. The 50th anniversary edition of his first young adult novel, *The Contender*, has recently been published, with a new paperback cover and a new introduction. His 1976 *Sportsworld: An American Dreamland* (one of the 100 best sports books of all time, according to *Sports Illustrated*), which has been long out of print, is being re-issued. A movie starring Donald Sutherland, *Measure of a Man*, is being released; it's based on Bob's second young adult novel, *One Fat Summer*.

Bob and his wife, Lois, live full-time on Shelter Island, where he writes for the town paper, *The Reporter*, and she is president of the local chapter of the League of Women Voters. Because kids and grandkids love to visit, Bob and Lois don't get off the island much these days.

Sam Rosenberg: "I ended 2017 with the publication of a collaborative edition and translation of 13th-century motets and started 2018 with the publication of my verse translation of the anonymous 13th-century tale *Robert the Devil*, whose best-known post-medieval version is Meyerbeer's opera of the same name. Now I am putting poet Paul Verlaine into English and also reaching back into the Middle Ages with the translation of a 13th-century historical work. It's a very satisfying way of continuing to pass the years of retirement!"

Alan Zuckerman: "What a year. It's been almost three years since my wife, Marilyn, died and I am getting used to being alone. I have so many great memories of our adventures. They bring me joy. My year began in sunny Indio, Los Angeles and Berkeley, Calif., and ended in sunny Pompano Beach, Fla. My motivation was simple; avoid the frigid, snowy winters in Madison. I am writing this in sunny Pompano Beach and was to go back to Southern California in February. In March I was planning to go back to South Africa for two weeks with son Jonas, Jonas' wife Kate, and their children, William (8) and Lily (5). We are scheduled to be there March 18–30, staying with my friend Malose Kekana in Johannesburg and traveling to a game preserve and Cape Town. I worked with Malose 2000–01 and we have been friends since that time. I want to make the trip while I still have energy.

"Life in Madison, especially being near Jonas, Kate, William and Lily, is great. They are such fun. Watching them grow and learn and engage with life brings me pleasure. Jonas is managing Title I educational programs for the State of Wisconsin and my other son, Eric '94, works for a computer software firm in Los Angeles. We were all together with the Aughenbaughs (Jonas' in-laws) for Thanksgiving. I volunteer at the Lussier Community Education Center in Madison, helping them plan programs and I hope raise money to increase services.

"I have renewed contact with some old friends this year. I have fond memories of growing up in Boston, of Columbia, of life in the '60s in Washington and of the War on Poverty, which have been therapeutic. I also developed and taught a course, 'Reflections on the War on Poverty,' for an adult learning community in Madison. It's amazing how much was accomplished in the first two years of Johnson's presidency. It's tragic that President Trump is trying to eliminate many of the Great Society programs designed to improve the lives of poor people.

"My favorite book this year is Laura Dassow Walls' biography of Henry David Thoreau. He was the most inquisitive person and wanted to know why everything is the way it is. He lived in Concord, Mass., with Emerson, Hawthorne and the Alcotts, and he traveled extensively, often by walking. It makes me wonder if technology is destroying our ability to learn by observation. We can find answers on Google, but where is the sense of discovery? Thoreau and the description of life in New England 1820–60 was fascinating.

"There is a quotation from Dante that Robert F. Kennedy often cited: 'The hottest places in hell are reserved for those who in time of moral crisis maintain their neutrality ... And it's not sufficient just being against, just saying I don't think I like the way things are going. We have a responsibility to offer an alternative.' This is a time of moral crisis!

"We have a destructive President. We need a leader and alternative plans that will bring people of different races, cultures and religions together, that will share the immense riches of this country and find alternatives to war and weapons to resolve conflict. The income and wealth disparities are getting larger every year. We need to find ways to better distribute both wealth and income. The homeless and poor should have a basic level of income, basic health care, housing and education. For the last 30 years, the top 1 percent have increased both wealth and income. Our current President is committed to continuing this pattern and we need new political leadership who will change those policies. How? That is a long discussion that we need to have. We have an opportunity to see that the benefits of automation are shared by all people.

"Our country and the world are changing rapidly, and we need to prepare for a changing economy and modern technology, and for transforming demographics. I hope that I am still around to see this emerging world and still have the energy and intellect to join the dialogue. Love and hugs to all."

Yours truly was in London, Birmingham and Glasgow, January 23–February 7. Beginning in 1966, I have visited London many times. This time I visited the new U.S. Embassy, a beehive-looking structure designed by Eero Saarinen. It is located south of the River Thames, in a neighborhood largely being torn down and replaced with modern high-rise buildings. I then revisited the Houses of Parliament. To one side of the Houses is a series of statues, including of Sir Winston Churchill, Nelson Mandela, David Lloyd George and Jan Smuts. Across the Thames are, among others, the London Eye (a giant Ferris wheel) and Lambeth Palace (home of the Archbishop of Canterbury).

A short distance from Parliament is Trafalgar Square. Dwarfing the Nelson Column are a huge arch

honoring Queen Victoria and King Edward VII and the vast National Gallery. Around the corner is the National Portrait Gallery. To the right of the art galleries is St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church, noted for its musical program. I attended a partial performance of Mozart's *Mass in C Minor*, with narration from the choir director. The next day there was a piano recital of old-time favorites, including Beethoven's *Moonlight Sonata,* Liszt's *Hungarian Rhapsody* No. 2, Chopin's "*Military*" *Polonaise* and Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue.*

Next stop was Covent Garden, once the farmers market but now a series of booths selling various items. To one side is St. Paul's, the "actors' church," with its classic columns and portico. It is in the opening scene of *My Fair Lady*, where Henry Higgins encounters Eliza Doolittle hawking her flowers and murdering the English language. Nearby is the Royal Opera House; I missed a performance of *Tosca* the evening after I left for Birmingham. Before leaving London I also visited the British Museum, with its magnificent archaeology.

Additionally I visited Windsor; a statue of the aging Queen Victoria stands guard at the entrance to the castle grounds.

Birmingham was new for me. Once grimy "Brummy," it is now a leading cultural center. Much of the downtown area has been or is in the process of being torn down in favor of modern high-rise buildings. Outstanding are the sparkling Convention Centre, Symphony Hall and Repertory Theatre. Remaining from earlier days are an outstanding art gallery with, among other things, a good collection of Pre-Raphaelite paintings. On the other side of the building is Victoria Square, which has the classic Town Hall (for musical events) and the Council House (city hall). Close by is St. Philip's Cathedral.

A short train ride from downtown is the University of Birmingham. On one side are the Medical School, Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Women's Hospital. On the other side are the undergraduate and graduate schools, with a monumental statue of Michael Faraday, chemist and physicist. There are several old red-brick buildings, but the huge library and other buildings are ultra-modern. Nearby is the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, a fairly small but outstanding art gallery.

My visit to Glasgow was mainly for reminiscing; I often had visited a professor and his wife there. Philip died and Rosemary moved. I revisited the University of Glasgow, with its tall, pinnacled tower and memorials to Lords Kelvin, mathematician and physicist, and Lister, surgeon. The next day I walked through the old part of town to revisit the cathedral and the Green. The cathedral is a pleasant oasis for reflection.

1958

Peter Cohn
Columbia College Today
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
petercohn1939@gmail.com

CCT welcomes new class correspondent **Peter Cohn,** who will take the reins beginning with the Fall issue. Please send updates to him at either of the addresses at the top of this column.

The following was compiled by *CCT*:

Ian Nisonson PS'62: "The seventh Nisonson — the third generation — has been accepted to the College. Me, then three of my four children (Evan '84, SOA'86; Andrea '86; Lauren '88); my brother Barton '62, PS'66; his daughter Nathania '03; and now my son Evan's daughter Emma '22, who has been accepted early decision.

"I retired from my practice in urology in Miami, Fla., about 2005. I am co-director of the Annual Conference on Autism Spectrum Disorder. It is going into its 16th year (one grandson is severely autistic). I am also a member of the executive committee on continuing medical education in a very large nonprofit hospital system, Baptist Health South Florida. Four years ago I started teaching at Florida International Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine as an adjunct assistant professor (I teach 'Professional Behavior 1 and 2' and recently added 'End of Life, Palliative Care'). I also have been a volunteer physician on the Palliative Care Team at Baptist Health South Miami Hospital since 2009. Despite this, I really have free time. Myrna (my wife of 58 years) and I visit our 10 grandchildren in Miami; Boca Raton; Greenville, S.C.; and Carmel, Ind. So, with a little golf and time in the gym we keep ourselves young and healthy."

Ira Carlin: "First, **Jack McGroarty** passed away earlier this year. He was a retired ophthalmologist who practiced in North Hollywood, Calif. Second, like the proverbial swallows, **Lenny Zivitz** and I returned to San Juan Capistrano recently for a highly enjoyable pre-reunion lunch."

Morton Schatzman is a medical doctor and psychiatrist. He moved to London in 1967 and lives there with his wife. He has two sons, five grandsons and a granddaughter.

Robert W. Hanning GSAS'64: "Like so many of our classmates, I mourn [former *CCT* class correspondent] **Barry Dickman**'s passing; his contributions to *CCT* were much appreciated.

"Now in my 12th year of retirement after 45 years in Columbia's Department of English and Comparative Literature, I volunteer in the College Road Program of Columbia's service organization, Community Impact, working with adults who want to go on to college after earning their high school equivalency certification. It's a challenging, sometimes frustrating, but often very rewarding, exercise. I've also reconnected, after 55 years, with Billy Goldenberg '57, to whose music I set some lyrics for a couple of Varsity Shows. I was a rank amateur, but Billy went on to a fabulous Hollywood career. Just for fun, we're writing some songs again. Last but certainly not least, my wife, Barbara, and I celebrated our 55th anniversary in June, more in love than ever. Our daughter, Gina, lives on Roosevelt Island and our son, Rob, in Los Angeles, where he writes for television (currently *Hawaii 5-0*)."

Joe Dorinson: "Our 60th reunion will be diminished by Barry's absence. Why not quote a lyric from the American Civil War era? 'We shall meet but we shall miss him./There will be one vacant chair.'"

Carl Frischling: "It is ironic that Barry passed away before our 60th reunion. He was a mainstay for our class over the many years he was our class correspondent and was a model of a true communicator to remind us of how much we are indebted to the College early on in our lives. He will be missed."

Jim Bast: "Barry will be sorely missed. He was a great person to know and work with at College, and a very committed 'scribe' thereafter. I'm on Cape Cod in retirement, so unable to make the monthly luncheons. Nor have I been faithful for reunions, where a major excuse is that my college sweetheart and wife of 59 years always has a birthday on that same, often holiday, weekend. I try to atone by interviewing College applicants, as I am apparently one of the only alumni willing to do so here in paradise."

Barnett "Barney" Cline: "One classmate with whom I have maintained close contact and friendship since graduation is fellow San Antonio Texan **Eddie Hedaya,** who now resides in Delray Beach, Fla., with his wife, Jean. My wife, Nancy, and I were looking forward to visiting them in April.

"I recently published a book, *The Wind Blew Me There: Memories of a Ship's Surgeon on Barquentine Verona.* Classmates who find themselves near San Antonio or Austin are encouraged to visit us on our ranch near Blanco, Texas."

Henry A. Solomon PS'62: "I have maintained my international travels on behalf of the American College of Cardiology and recently led two workshops on leadership development for aspiring Chinese hospital executives in Shanghai. I am chief continuing medical education reviewer for MedPage Today, a medical website that was recently acquired by Ziff Davis publishers."

Joseph Coogan SEAS'59, SEAS'60: "Three of my physics professors in the College would go on to win a Nobel Prize: Leon Lederman, Charles Townes and Polykarp Kusch. During the 1950s the physics department seemed to be a holding pen or training ground for Nobel physicists. I remember I.I. Rabi was the department chair when I was there; Enrico Fermi wanted to start there but went on to the University of Chicago. Both were also Nobel Laureates. In the late 1930s, my favorite physicist, Richard Feynman, tried to enroll (he was born in Queens) but was rejected because the Jewish limit at the time had been achieved. He enrolled at MIT and then went to Princeton for a Ph.D. He became a professor at Cal Tech and a Nobel Prize winner. He is famous for his Feynman idagrams, his work on the Manhattan Project and, much later in life, for his TV appearance regarding the *Challenger* spaceship disaster (regarding the

latter, his dipping a small rubber washer in a glass of iced water to show what happens when rubber elasticity changes with temperature enlightened the public).

"During my freshman term in the College I lived at home in Teaneck, N.J. One morning I was a bit late for my chemistry class in Havemeyer Hall. I got off the subway at the 116th Street station, which was then on a median divider separating the northbound and southbound lanes of Broadway. I darted across Broadway looking out for traffic, but apparently not for people. Halfway across I bumped shoulders with a man, who then fell down in traffic. Who was that man? It was Harry S. Truman, who earlier had apparently given a lecture at the University. His aides and I helped him up; he was not hurt. After a sincere apology I continued on to Havemeyer.

"Six years later after finishing my degrees, including four years of NROTC courses, I proceeded to my active duty assignment at the Key West NAS. Truman loved Key West. He vacationed there 11 times. His vacation house, which was then the admiral's house, is now the Truman Museum. I lived in town with my wife for two years, six to eight blocks from the admiral's house. However, I never saw Truman again; by then he had probably retired to Independence, Miss.

"However, a new President — JFK — was the new notable, along with Prime Minister Harold McMillan of the United Kingdom, to visit both the Air Station and the Truman Museum. The day of their visit I happened to be the Officer of the Day (in charge of security) at the Air Station. In that position I met both of them …

"How about meeting other Presidents or notables in other places? Three stand out. In St. Petersburg, Russia, I had one-hour conversations with both Vladimir Putin and Mayor Anatoly Sobchak. The subject was grain terminals, which I was promoting at the time. They both struck me as impressive officials. In the 1990s, I attended a conference at Hofstra on Long Island. Ex-Cabinet members from the Reagan era, such as James Baker, were the speakers. There was one other speaker who was Reagan's counterpart in the USSR: Mikhail Gorbachev. He was in charge when the USSR collapsed. He gave a good speech. When it was finished we had a chat offstage. He was amazed that I had had a similar talk with Putin.

"Then there was that 'would-be' President of the United States, who was running for office in 1968. I met him at the Cross County Shopping Center in Yonkers, N.Y. He was coming out of Macy's with two of his aides, and I was coming out of a neighboring retail store. They were coming toward me so I decided not to move. When they were close to me, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy put out his hand. When we shook hands I said, 'Good luck Mr. Kennedy.' I remember he was wearing a black armband to commemorate his brother JFK, and a tag announcing his candidacy for president. Several months later after giving a speech in the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles he was shot in the head and killed by Sirhan Sirhan while exiting the hotel through the kitchen.

"At the time I was a product manager on Maxwell House Coffee at General Foods. Looking at my IBM runs I wondered why three West Coast prisons were buying so much instant coffee. I decided to investigate by calling the wardens at Vacaville, Alcatraz and San Quentin. They explained that it was the inmates who were buying the jar-pack coffee at the Exchange Store. They could then make a cup at any time during the day, and especially before they would go out to the prison yard to play ball. Each warden then invited me to visit to see for myself. I decided to take them up on their offer. I visited each prison, the Exchange Stores and the prison yards. The warden at San Quentin also offered to walk me around the cell blocks to observe prison life. When we got close to the end of one corridor he said 'Look over there. See the end cell. See who is in there? That's Sirhan Sirhan, the man who killed RFK.'"

1959

Norman Gelfand
c/o *CCT*
Columbia Alumni Center
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025
nmgc59@gmail.com

In about a year, we will celebrate the 60th anniversary of our Commencement. I look forward to seeing you all there.



A photo of the groomsmen from Bernie Pucker '59's June 15, 1959, wedding. Top row, second from right: Kenneth Gros Louis '59; bottom row, left to right: Paul Nagano '60, Avram Kraft '60, David Rosand '59, Mike Sohn '60 and George Nikolaieff '61.

Let me start with some short notes. **Mike Tannenbaum** GSAS'65 informs us that *Marquis Who's Who,* the world's premier publisher of biographical profiles, presented him with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award. An accomplished listee, Dr. Tannenbaum celebrates many years' experience in his professional network and has been noted for achievements, leadership qualities, and the credentials and successes he has accrued in his field.

For a more complete description of the basis for the award, and a summary of Mike's accomplishments, go to 24-7pressrelease.com/press-release-service/450996.

Steve Trachtenberg has been busy. He writes, "I have a new book on the university presidency coming out April 15. Likely my last, but I have said that before. Ran into **Riordan Roett** in the lobby of the Hotel Ritz in Madrid. He never disappoints. When I asked him what he was doing in Spain, he said he was there to see the king. And I believed him."

Bill Zangwill celebrated his 80th birthday on St. Patrick's Day with a fantastic dinner on the 99th floor of the Sears Tower (now the Willis Tower) in Chicago. **Paul Kantor** and his wife, Carole, and **Norman Gelfand** and his wife, Yona, were there, along with many of Bill's family members and friends.

Arnie Offner reports that his biography, *Hubert Humphrey: The Conscience of the Country*, will be published on August 21. Arnie will be giving numerous talks about the book: at Politics and Prose Bookstore on September 15, and at Smithsonian Associates on October 25, in Washington, D.C., and at the Miller Center of Public Affairs at UVA, in Charlottesville, Va., on October 30. Other scheduled talks, with dates to be announced on his website, arnoldaoffner.com, will be at the Leon Levy Centerfor Biography at CUNY on Fifth Avenue, New York City, and at the Harvard Coop in Cambridge, Mass.

The book has gotten strong endorsements from President Carter, Vice President Mondale and noted biographers.

Arnie spent 49 years as a history professor, including five years at Syracuse, 23 years at Boston University and 21 years at Lafayette, from which he retired as Cornelia F. Hugel Professor Emeritus of History in 2012.

Arnie is married to Ellen Siegel Offner BC'61, a health care strategist and consultant, and they live in Newton, Mass., near their children Deborah and Michael, their respective spouses, and four grandchildren. When not working, Arnie and Ellen travel as widely as possible, and also enjoy spending time at their summer home in the Berkshires, near Tanglewood and Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. Classmates and friends are always welcome: email offner1@comcast.net or call 617-332-7161.

Dr. **Ralph W. Wyndrum Jr. SEAS'59**, BUS'78, LF-IEEE [Life Fellow-Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers] chair, Fair Haven Environmental Commission, past president, IEEE-USA, Washington, D.C., and past chairman of the American Association of Engineering Societies, also in Washington, D.C., wrote in at the end of 2017: "Time has slipped by quickly. This is the 29th year that my wife, Meta, and I have lived here in Fair Haven, N.J. We've had 57 years of marriage and a wonderful family. Now in our ninth decade (that's over 80, not 90!) we better appreciate all the wonders of life and what God has given us, in the past and in the present — the latter being a winter scene outside of fresh snow, illuminated by computer-controlled twinkling LEDs! With the joys that Christmas confirms, Meta and I want to wish all of our readers a peaceful and quiet holiday season, which inspires us all to humbly serve all in need of our help.

"The holiday festivities that used to be ours to serve are now ours to enjoy at our children's homes, enhanced by eight grandchildren and their friends, a wonderful and rich turn of events. Thanksgiving found us at daughter Dorothy and [her husband] Mike's in Branchburg, and Christmas will be at daughter Joan and [her husband] Kevin's in Avon-by-the-Sea, both here in New Jersey.

"I am president of the Monmouth branch of the English-Speaking Union (ESU), which presented a number of English cultural programs this year, and completed the year with a traditional Christmas roast beef dinner at the Rumson Country Club. I also serve as a Eucharistic minister at Nativity Church. Meta is VP of her alumni club, with its monthly lunches. I chair the member care committee of the Root Beer and Checker Club, which meets twice weekly for lunch and serves the social needs of its aging members. Both Meta and I support the Red Bank Chamber Music Society and the Two River Theater.

"My genealogical research in Northern Ireland, Scotland and the English border counties becomes more and more difficult for lack of records, with about 12,000 family members recorded and largely placed in trees. It's the 'strays' that become so frustrating, and the continued repetition of a half-dozen given names over seven centuries.

"February 2017 brought Meta's 'Big 80.' She was honored by a family affair at the Heldrich Hotel in New Brunswick, N.J., following a Shakespeare ESU Competition in the morning. In March, we went to Hollywood, Fla., for a week, visiting daughter Jeanne and enjoying the beach and local restaurants. In April, I helped at the Robot Challenge at Brookdale College, sponsored by IEEE. The contestants are local high school upperclassmen, whose talents are just amazing. It's hard to believe how much new academic material has been added to the curricula since we were juniors 60-plus years ago.

"Toward the end of April, we celebrated our 57th wedding anniversary and my 80th birthday at Nicholas Restaurant, and Howie Allen '58, SEAS'59's 'Big 80,' at a party in Brooklyn. We flew to Overland Park, Kan., in May to visit son Ralph III, Wanda, Isabel, Amelia, Ralph IV and Eleanor. It's always fun, yet we only see them once or twice a year.

"In the middle of June we flew to Stockholm, where we joined our close Dusseldorf friends, Klaus and Elsbeth Mueller, for a four-day sightseeing tour. It was a lot of fun with friends we see too little. From there we took a cruise on Oceania around nine Baltic countries including Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. It was for 10 days; we highly recommend the cruise and the associated tours. We stayed around home in July, August and September, with some local travel and enjoying the Navesink River, the ocean and fine summer weather. October brought forth the new season, theater, an Oktoberfest, the chamber music performances and all the things that make the fall lively. For Thanksgiving, we joined Dorothy and her extended family, and joined Joan's in Avon for Christmas Day. We will think of you all and look forward to seeing or hearing from you in these class pages in 2018!"

Mike Tannenbaum '59 was presented with the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award by Marquis Who's Who, *the world's premier publisher of biographical profiles.*

Steve Kallis Jr. reports, "As a retiree in Florida's Tampa Bay, there's nothing new aside from some surprisingly cold weather. However, I don't recall sending this before. For a quarter-century, I was an employee of the late, lamented Digital Equipment Corp., as a member of its corporate public relations department.

"While there, I established a library of 'application films,' which were industrial films that could be lent to schools and professional societies. These films showed various ways that the company's computers were used. Four of the films I did myself, having my own motion picture production equipment. In the days I made those films, cameras weren't digital and used actual film to record moving images.

"My films are now accessible at archive.org. They can be viewed there, or downloaded for retention. The films are *Clear!* (archive.org/details/Clear_201403), a PDP-8/m computer system is used at an airport's fixed base operation to ease the functions of dispatching airplanes and selling pilot supplies; *Computer-Augmented Chemical Analysis* (archive.org/details/Chemical_20140328), a PDP-12 computer is used at a chemical facility to determine the characteristics of a potential antibiotic; *Pulsebeat Of The Universe* (archive.org/details/Pulsebeat), a PDP-12 computer is used in a radioastronomy observatory to study neutron stars known as pulsars; and *Along the Shorelines of the Skies* (archive.org/details/Shorelines), a PDP-8 computer is used to calibrate an ultraviolet spectrometer used in rocket-borne ultraviolet spectrometers in high-altitude and space research.

"On the matter of motion pictures, I might as well add that the 1975 movie *Three Days of the Condor*, which stars Robert Redford, opens with a shot of a PDP-8/e computer being used by a CIA-funded research facility to scan foreign language books and translate them into English. As a PR guy, I placed the computer into the movie, and as a techno-weenie, I programmed it. (In the Internet Movie Database entry on the film, I'm listed under full cast and crew as the 'technical consultant for the computer sequence.')"

My apologies to **Richard Engelman** and **Eric Jakobsson** for not including their contributions. They will appear in the Fall issue.

1960

Robert A. Machleder
69-37 Fleet St.
Forest Hills, NY 11375
rmachleder@aol.com

Michael Scheck BUS'61 lives in Miami. Apparently, he is quite content to be there. He and his wife, Raquel, married 54 years, have been in Miami for more than 60 years. They are not the only Schecks in Miami. All of their family, Michael reports, "live next door to one another in Miami on a 'cul de Scheck.'" Now that's quite a lot of Schecks — enough to field two softball teams or to occupy the entire first violin section of a symphony orchestra (Michael and Raquel have 17 grandchildren).

And this battalion of Schecks doesn't always stay put in Miami. Michael favored me with two beautiful pictures of the entire complement (including dog Maisie) assembled for photos in Brazil, taken two years ago, and in Beaver Creek, Colo., taken this past December. With such evidence now in hand, 17 establishes a record for grandchildren. That crown, which has long weighed on **Vince Russo**'s brow with 15, moves on to Miami.

Michael, who earned an M.B.A. from the Business School, retired in 2005 from the wholesale distribution of paper and other products. He's not the only member of the family with a degree from the College. Son Marty '88 and daughter Elise '91 are graduates, and Marty's daughter Nicole '19 will be one — three generations of recipients of a spectacular education on Morningside Heights. Michael sends his regards to all.

Mike Gelfand offers additional wry observations about his freshman adventure painting the "C" at Spuyten Duyvil while suspended on a board at the end of a rope, and a serious note about the value of his participation as a coxswain on the crew: "That was a differ-

ent era: 16 years old, no parental consent needed, no safety harness, no flotation vest in case you fell into the river from your perch. Nobody worried about liability issues in 1956! Being asked to cox by Dean [Harry] Coleman '46 was fortuitous. It's where I first developed the self-confidence and leadership skills that led to my success as a vascular surgeon and community leader."

To the uninitiated observer of a race of eights, the coxswain is probably the least appreciated person in the shell — perhaps one of the least appreciated participants in all of sports. But every oarsman and oarswoman knows that many a race of eights is won by a few seats, and the difference between winning and losing often depends on the skill and the leadership of the coxswain. *The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics,* by Daniel James Brown, a beautifully written bestseller that tells the story of the historic University of Washington eight-oared crew that won the gold medal in the 1936 Olympics, pays appropriate tribute to the coach-in-the-boat.

Tom Palmieri, now fully retired as a hand surgeon, plans to spend a great deal of time on his boat, the *Manus Rex*. I gather *Manus Rex* is a play on Tom's surgical specialty and translates roughly from Latin to English as "the King of Hands." Tom is in contact with **Vince Russo** and would love to renew contact with other members of the class. Drop me a note if you would like to be in touch and I'll provide Tom with your contact information.



Contact CCT

Update your address, email or phone; submit a Class Note, new book, photo, obituary or Letter to the Editor; or send us an email. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

Congratulations to **Stephen Solender** SW'62, who was celebrated as one of eight New York octogenarians-plus who continue to lead lives of active civic engagement and accomplishment. At the annual "8 over 80" gala benefit on March 12 for The New Jewish Home, one of the nation's largest and most diversified nonprofit geriatric health and rehabilitation systems, Steve, described as a "nonprofit luminary," joined in being honored with seven other distinguished New Yorkers: entertainment legend Clive Davis; renowned *New York Times* journalist Marilyn Berger; former NYC mayor David Dinkins; philanthropic leader Elizabeth McCormack; academic visionary Vartan Gregorian; and finance leaders Roy Zuckerberg and John Heimann.

Steve's lifelong record of distinguished social service is truly extraordinary. After graduating from the School of Social Work, Steve worked for the Jewish Community Centers of Chicago as a teen worker, program director and branch director; thereafter he moved to Geneva, Switzerland, where he worked for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and was president of the English-speaking Jewish community of Geneva. He returned to the United States to become director of social planning and budgeting at The Associated Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, and then became president. He was executive VP of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, where he supervised its merger with the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York, creating the largest local Jewish Federation in North America and one of the country's largest private philanthropies (he was the organization's executive VP for 13 years). He was the founding president of the Human Services Council of New York, the umbrella group uniting human services agencies in New York. He also played a key role in the formation of the United Jewish Communities, which became the central funding and social service system for the American Jewish community, as its first president and CEO and now as its president emeritus. He was the second executive VP of the 9-11 United Services Group, supervising the distribution of more than $700 million that had been donated to voluntary agencies in New York after the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. And the list of his works goes on.

Steve received a John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement in 2000. Steve and wife Elsa married in 1960 — certainly an auspicious year — and have two Columbia sons (Michael '86 and Daniel '87) and seven grandchildren. Dan's wife, Lynne, is SEAS'87. One of the grandchildren is Brian '17.

Syd Goldsmith GSAS'65 writes from Taipei: "By Chinese traditional measure, I turned 80 at Chinese New Year in 2017. It was a momentous year. First, living to this age in Chinese society will mean red banners at my funeral, not the ordinary white mourning banners for those who do not make it this far along the journey of creeping entropy."

It was a year that included a month of travel. "The peak," Syd continues, "was Harrison's (my 24-year-old son) response to the gift of a trip to Europe to honor his forthcoming graduation from college. I had hardly finished telling him when he said, 'Why don't you come with me?' We rented a car and followed our instincts in Germany, Switzerland and France, with some bonus days in Austria and Italy, where we jammed jazz with our host the pianist, Harrison on erhu [a two-stringed bowed musical instrument] and me on flute. That was just one of many delightful experiences. Another host in Switzerland invited us to a concert and we cooked for each other. A combination of things led us to drive nearly 1,000 miles out of the way so Harrison could connect with a friend in Munich and I could visit with the former French delegate to the International Herald Tribune Forum. Driving all that distance together to see a couple of friends gave us a good reminder of what's really important. Another message from that trip: 30 days traveling, father and young-adult son, one on one, was an extraordinary experience getting to know each other for both of us … not a typical parent-child experience. Fifty-five years apart in age and very close together. Beautiful."

But the year was not without its disappointments. **"Paul Chevalier** and I had to give up skiing together after years of glorious annual visits to his lovely home in Sedona and a week on the slopes at his timeshare in Telluride. It all came about at the 50th reunion when I ran into Paul for the first time since we graduated. After a delightful late evening with the Chevaliers and **Paul Nagano,** Paul C. suggested skiing and I decided that the rarity of new offers of friendship at age 70-plus overcame any concern about the distance required to just do it. Now that the realities of added years are making themselves felt, we are planning to move our next reunion to New York in June. Good replacement for risking old bones on ever-steeper slopes. So, time marches on, with many silver linings in the clouds associated with aging."

And, as for his creative experiences, Syd notes, "With *Hong Kong on the Brink,* I now have three published books, along with three Flute Flight albums and two more in the works. Teaching at the Central Police University in Taiwan keeps me in touch with a much younger generation, and that's a joy and an education too. Life's good."

1961

Michael Hausig
19418 Encino Summit
San Antonio, TX 78259
mhausig@yahoo.com

Bill Binderman SIPA'63, LAW'64 passed away on February 15, 2018, after a valiant struggle with rapid onset Parkinson's disease with Lewy Body Dementia (the worst kind of PD). Bill almost singlehandedly organized and oversaw our five-year Homecoming events.

During our time at Columbia, Bill was WKCR's sportscaster, covering all our football games (among other events). He was someone who cared deeply about, and contributed significantly to, Columbia throughout his life. He never turned down an opportunity to be there for anyone who asked, never mind the travel, the conflicts or inconvenience. Bill was a friend you could always count on to be there and support you.

Bill practiced law in New York and later in Philadelphia. He was president of Beth Emeth Synagogue in Larchmont, N.Y., and a leader of our class for more than 55 years. He is survived by his wife, Roberta, and several children from his first marriage.

Members of the NYC lunch group, of which Bill was a frequent attendee, wanted to make a memo-

rial gift to honor Bill by gifting to his beloved WKCR. If you wish, you can donate online directly on the WKCR website (wkcr.org) by clicking the "give today" link. The phone number is 212-851-2699.

Jim Ammeen, Jack Kirik and Lucky Bowers '62 recently vacationed on St. Maarten. The island was severely damaged on September 6 by Hurricane Irma; most businesses, housing, hotels, churches and restaurants were either damaged or destroyed. Airport arrivals and departures are operating out of tents; full recovery will be a long journey. Fortunately, Lucky had rented a house that suffered little damage.

After spending more than 25 years studying and writing about the benefits and risks of hormone replacement therapy (for women, not men), **Av Bluming,** who is a medical oncologist, together with social psychologist Carol Tavris, spent the past year writing a book on the subject. It is scheduled to be published on September 4 and is already available for preorder on Amazon: *Estrogen Matters: Why Taking Hormones in Menopause Improves Women's Well-Being, Lengthens Their Lives — and Doesn't Raise the Risk of Breast Cancer.*

Former WKCR program directors (and friends for more than 50 years) **Art Wisot** and Nat Kramer '63, SEAS'64 reunited recently when the Kramers (Nat and his wife, Georgia Dobrer Kramer BC'64) traveled from Westchester, N.Y., to Southern California to watch their granddaughter play in a basketball tournament; they stayed with the Wisots. Since graduation, the Kramers and Wisots have attended each other's family milestone celebrations. They culminated their recent visit with a brunch that included the Wisots' son, David. Four former WKCR program directors attended the Kramers' daughter's wedding. Those program directors stick together.



Art Wisot '61 and Nat Kramer '63 reunited in Southern California. Seated: Georgia Dobrer Kramer BC'64 and Kramer; standing: Phyllis Wisot, Wisot and David Wisot.

Nat practices trademark law in Manhattan and Georgia practices divorce law in Westchester. Art does administrative work for his reproductive endocrinology practice, Reproductive Partners.

Tom Gochberg reports that after a week in the hospital having diagnostic work done on why he felt so weak and not learning how to walk as he felt he should, he was diagnosed with the need for neck surgery to take the pressure off his spinal cord. An eight-hour surgery was performed on March 7. The damage was corrected and Tom was released. He hopes it will stabilize his condition and, at best, improve his ability to walk. He expects it will take about three months to determine how successful the surgery was.



Michael Stone '62, Burt Lehman '62, Steve Berkman '62 and John Freidin '62 got together for lunch overlooking the beach and ocean on Fisher Island, Fla., where Berkman lives.

1962

John Freidin
654 E. Munger St.
Middlebury, VT 05753
jf@bicyclevt.com

Larry William PS'66 and Peter Gollon '63, GSAS'69, Larry's college roommate and longtime friend, spent a wonderful week last October visiting one of Africa's greatest remaining wildlife areas: Chief's Island in the Moremi Game Reserve in Botswana's Okavango Delta. They were able to get close to lions and lion cubs, leopards and cheetahs, white and black rhinos, large herds of elephants, giraffes and African wild ("painted") dogs. Seeing and photographing these magnificent animals — most of which are critically endangered — in their own habitat renewed Larry and Peter's commitment to helping ensure the survival of these species, even in the face of global climate change. Larry and Peter then flew to the Zimbabwe side of Victoria Falls and stayed in the century-old Victoria Falls Hotel, which Larry regrets "still emanates a faint air of white man's burden."

In January, Larry traveled to northern Montana to photograph more wildlife. He also has more travel planned: "In a few weeks," Larry writes, "I will be going to Pietermaritzburg in South Africa to attend the graduation ceremony of a Congolese friend, who will be getting his doctorate in gender studies. He lives in Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo, one of the worst spots on earth. Over the past four years I was his primary editor as he labored on his doctoral dissertation.

"I continue to mentor high school students. One will graduate this June and I hope to attend the ceremony. It will be a busy day for my wife, Judy, and me, as our twin grandchildren will graduate from high school that same day. Additionally, in April Judy and I plan to travel to France, the Netherlands and Belgium. Other than this stuff, I stay home, where I have a lot of fun cooking and tending my tiny garden."

Allen Young wrote in January: "Davos, Switzerland, is in the news, and it made me smile when I heard it. That's the spectacular venue where Trump recently met with heads of state and the world's business elite. In summer 1961, at 20, while on a Carnegie grant researching Swiss neutrality in the Cold War, I spent a couple of days in Davos. Here's a segment about that experience from my autobiography (which, by the way, was not my idea but which I decided to tackle after several people said, 'You've had an interesting life; you should write a book.').

"I interviewed academics, bankers, politicians and high-ranking businessmen in the Swiss watch industry. To accomplish this, I traveled by train to other parts of Suisse Romande, the local phrase for French-speaking Switzerland, including Berne and Lausanne. Dean John Palfrey was attending an international conference in Davos, high in the Alps, and invited me to meet him. To get there, I had to take a boat and funicular; the conference venue was spectacular. While my focus was not primarily on the natural beauty of Switzerland, I appreciated it to a certain extent. I enjoyed hiking up Le Salève, a small mountain on the edge of Geneva. I took an enjoyable day trip by car with Pastor Trocmé to the picturesque town of Annecy in the nearby French department (similar to a state) of Haute-Savoie. Very often, I simply stood on a bridge at the edge of Lake Geneva, watching the Rhone River waters swiftly flow below me en route to the Mediterranean Sea."

Allen's 500-page book, *Left, Gay & Green: A Writer's Life*, includes a chapter about his years at Columbia, including coursework, friendships, politics and sex. It is available on Amazon.

Lester Hoffman writes from New York's Upper West Side: "After Columbia, I earned a Ph.D. at Harvard in a unique combination of studies — philosophy of language, cognitive psychology, and learning technology. After teaching for nine years at CUNY and Long Island University on subjects like medical ethics, political philosophy, philosophy of education and the social consequences of technology, I left academia to establish a new career as a training and management consultant. I have been creating

learning programs for dozens of large companies such as IBM, Citibank, Goldman Sachs and Pfizer. I've also been a professional editor/writer with more than 200 scientists, researchers, engineers and computer professionals, helping them write and edit their data and ideas into books, papers and other publications. I still do this. I've taught more than 100 workshops on scientific and medical writing, editing and publishing for such clients as Novartis Pharmaceuticals, the FDA, the NIH, the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, the School of Public Health and the Navy. I get pleasure from helping technical experts explain their ideas to non-experts, learning about their research and helping them explain it to the world. Another consulting interest is bias and diversity; I've written two books on unconscious bias in the workplace and taught many workshops on this timely topic.

"Best of all, I've been wonderfully married to Dorothy Gnos Hoffman, a pharmaceutical editor, for 41 years. Our older daughter, Krista, is an actor in Los Angeles and our younger daughter, MeiHua, is a barista here in New York. I'd love to hear from classmates in NYC, or anywhere (tomhaw@aol.com)."

In the Spring 2018 issue, **John Joyce** recalled the May 9, 1961, *New York Times* story about Columbia's big baseball win over Army and the stellar performances of **Tom Vasell**, **Bob Koehler** and Mike Esposito '61. Today I have the sad responsibility to report that Bob passed away on December 12, 2017, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

The following obituary appeared on the Athletics website: "Bob was a special man, a proud Lion, and someone who will be dearly missed but remembered fondly in spirit by the teams that played with him and were coached by him," said Tim Murray '04, a player under Bob.

"A native of the Bronx, Koehler was the ace of the Lions' pitching staff from 1960 to 1962. Upon graduation, he held the Columbia record for career strikeouts (253) and ERA (2.02) and still ranks second and third, respectively, in those categories. In 1960, Koehler posted eight victories, tied for the program's single-season record with a 1.11 ERA to earn team MVP and All-Eastern League honors. He followed that up with a 1.04 ERA the following season. Koehler was signed by the New York Yankees in 1962 and played two years in the minor leagues, before receiving a master's degree in education from Teachers College. He then taught for 31 years at H. Frank Carey H.S. on Long Island. During the summer, he played baseball in Canada and served as a batting practice pitcher for the New York Yankees and Mets. In 1998 he returned to Columbia to serve as a volunteer pitching coach, a role he held until 2005."

Bob is survived by his wife, Shan Bradley Koehler; children and their spouses, Catherine and Greg Lowe, Michael Koehler and Kimberly Dukes, and Christopher Koehler and Dede Clapp; grandchildren, Austin, Cameron, Jeffrey and Douglas; and brother, Edward.

In late February, **Steve Berkman** hosted **Burt Lehman**, **Michael Stone** and **John Freidin** for lunch overlooking the beach and ocean on Fisher Island, Fla., where Steve and his wife, Bobbi, have lived for many years. Steve and Mike were college roommates, as were Burt and John (and **Jon Narcus**). We solved the world's problems and never talked of days past.

1963

Paul Neshamkin
1015 Washington St., Apt. 50
Hoboken, NJ 07030
pauln@helpauthors.com

I am writing this note in late March. By the time you read it, I expect that you will have had a great time at our 55th reunion and helped us break all the attendance records. Details to follow in the Fall issue.

Phil Satow kindly hosted me at his table in March at the John Jay Awards Dinner, where I had the pleasure of sitting next to former Dean of the College Austin E. Quigley. This is one of my favorite Columbia events and it was great to share it with some of my favorite Columbia people.

Peter Gollon GSAS'69 and his college roommate, Larry William '62, PS'66, traveled to Africa last fall (see the Class of '62 notes). After their joint safari adventure, Peter traveled on his own and spent three days in Johannesburg, where he visited many of the significant sites and museums dedicated to the decades-long struggle against apartheid, which ended with the peaceful transition to a democratic government in 1994 under Nelson Mandela.



Larry William '62 and Peter Gollon '63 spent a week in Africa in October taking photographs at Chief's Island in the Moremi Game Reserve (in Botswana's Okavango Delta).

As an aside, Peter writes, "My wife and I continue to be well and active with various progressive organizations, travel, visiting our children and grandchildren and so on. I'm looking forward to reunion, including staying in the dorms again, but definitely not eating John Jay food!"

Peter, we will be holding our reunion banquet in John Jay, but I assure you and our classmates that it will be catered.

Jerry Finkelstein writes, "I will not be able to attend reunion. I and my wife, Helen (whom I married 52 years ago, when we were both grad students at UC Berkeley), will be on our way to a vacation in France and Ireland.

"I obtained a Ph.D. in physics at Berkeley, then I taught physics at Stanford, at Columbia and at San Jose State. I am retired from teaching, but still do research in physics at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

"Helen and I have two children: Our son, Erik, was a post-doc at Columbia and works for the New York City Department of Public Health; our daughter, Malaika, teaches at City College of San Francisco. We have one grandchild — Josephine is in the seventh grade in a school in Manhattan. Class of 2027?"

Dan Perl writes, "My lab (Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' Center for Neuroscience and Regenerative Medicine Brain Tissue Repository) and our work was the subject of the lead story on *60 Minutes* on April 1. The story is a powerful one and a moving piece of television, which will provide an explanation for why I am so committed to the work I have been doing."

Jim Rodgers writes, "I practice law here in Brattleboro, Vt., without slowing down as yet. My wife, Carol, is an associate professor at SUNY Albany and is also busy advising a unique charter school in the Bronx. My children all live on the West Coast: Melissa in San Francisco, and Jon and Liz in Los Angeles. We will get together the second week of April when we fly to San Fran for a family celebration."

Paul Reale GSAS'67 writes, "I have two new CD recordings: *Dies Irae* on MSR Classics, which features concerto *Dies Irae* for piano trio and winds and two piano sonatas. *Chopin's Ghosts: Works for Cello and Piano* came out on the Naxos label on April 13. Older news: My string orchestra piece, 'Hextet,' premiered in New York on January 9."

Barry Bem SIPA'67 (barrybem@gmail.com) writes, "At this point I have lost contact with all classmates. Maybe this information will bring responses. After graduation in 1963, I joined the Peace Corps and spent two years in Colombia. I then returned to Columbia for a master's in international affairs. Then I had a series of jobs with an international connection: Foreign Service (three years); AFS International, a high school exchange program (seven-plus years); the international student office at Howard University in Washington, D.C. (14 years); and the Peace Corps staff (five-plus years), first in Ecuador as programming and training officer and then at headquarters in an office that handles various emergencies. I retired from full-time work but continued part-time for many years as a licensed tour guide in D.C. and as a tour manager for groups going to Cuba, Spain, Portugal and elsewhere. I have always been

involved in various volunteer activities, especially involving HIV/AIDS. Current activities are opera, tennis and gardening."

David Orme-Johnson writes, "I recently returned from the First International Conference of Complementary and Integrative Medicine and Public Health and the Third International Congress on Ayurveda (held in Rio de Janeiro, March 12–15), which had 4,000 delegates. I spoke the first day during the plenary session. The conference was sponsored by the Brazilian Ministry of Health, which paid all expenses for 300 speakers, who came from all over the world — India, China, Latin America, North America and the Caribbean. I began by briefly reviewing studies showing that the physiological effects of the Transcendental Meditation technique are in the opposite direction of stress (reductions in cortisol, respiratory rate, heart rate, etc.). I then presented evidence from my five-year health insurance studies indicating that practice of the TM technique reduces health care use across all disease categories and age groups, for both hospitalization and outpatient visits. In both studies, particularly large decreases were found in older people, which highlights TM's anti-aging effects. In summary, these data, along with a 14-year longitudinal study and a five-year Gold Standard randomized controlled trial, indicate that TM practice reduces sickness rates and medical expenditures by 10 to 14 percent per year, for a 50 to 70 percent reduction in five years.

"I then suggested that TM be implemented in schools and other venues throughout Brazil. I presented evidence that group practice of TM, such as by students in schools, creates coherence in collective consciousness, as indicated by reduced rates of crime, traffic fatalities, drug-related deaths, infant mortality and other social indicators. The Brazilian Ministry of Health has incorporated integrative medicine into its system and is implementing it nationwide. Personally, this was a very fulfilling milestone, to have the research on TM and Ayurveda be taken seriously by a governmental agency and be implemented on a national scale."

David Hitlin GSAS'68 writes, "I am resending a note I sent a while back that to my knowledge never made it into your column."

David, you are absolutely right. Apologies. Here it is.

"A piece of professional news: I was awarded the American Physical Society's 2016 W.K.H. Panofsky Prize in Experimental Particle Physics, along with three colleagues. Two of us led the BaBar experiment at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Center and two were from the competing Belle experiment in Japan, hence the dual citation. The citation reads, 'For leadership in the BaBar and Belle experiments, which established the violation of CP symmetry in B meson decay, and furthered our understanding of quark mixing and quantum chromodynamics.' You can read more online at bit.ly/2HL5j1Q."

Dan Perl '63's lab and its work was the subject of the lead story on 60 Minutes *on April 1; it's "an explanation for why I am so committed to the work I have been doing," he says.*

Harley Frankel writes, "My nonprofit, College Match (which currently gets 73 percent of our low-income inner-city students into top 25 colleges like Columbia and 96 percent into top 50 colleges, with 94 percent graduating from these great colleges), recently got a nice compliment. A very well-respected and successful Hollywood documentarian has begun making a documentary on us. This film director has won an Academy Award and at least two Emmys focusing on issues of public policy and public interest. He is currently on the East Coast filming three of our groups visiting superb East Coast colleges, including Columbia. The primary purpose of this documentary is to interest other social entrepreneurs in other cities to establish their own college access programs using the College Match model. The significance of this is that we believe there are only one or two college access programs in the country that get the same level of college acceptances that we do, and the one I know about spends more than twice as much as we do per student. As a result, the College Match model is cost effective and thus replicable (which many successful nonprofit programs unfortunately aren't). We have agreed to assist others interested in moving in this direction."

Nicholas Zill writes, "My latest blog post concerns the academic and behavioral issues that adopted children often encounter in elementary, middle and high school. You can read it online at bit.ly/2EV0ikh."

If you missed our 55th reunion, remember that our regular class lunches (for now, we are still gathering at the Princeton Club) are always a great place to reconnect. If you're in NYC, try to make one of the lunches. The next one is September 13. Check out cc63ers.com for details.

In the meantime, let us know what you are up to, how you're doing and what's next.

1964

Norman Olch
233 Broadway
New York, NY 10279
norman@nolch.com

While I have noted a number of times that business takes **Beril Lapson** to places such as Turkey, China and Mexico, it turns out that he has a particular interest closer to home: He is the treasurer of Country Dance*New York.

Country dance is the American folk-dance version of English country dances of the 18th and 19th centuries. Beril's wife, Ellen BC'69, has been an enthusiast for five or six years, and Beril decided to join in about a year ago. He also loves to tango.

Gary Schonwald has been practicing law in New York and in London, where he is a solicitor, for several years. But Brexit has affected the practice of law in England, so he is spending more time in New York City.

In March, **Fred Kantor** traveled to Wisconsin for the bar mitzvah of his grand-nephew.

Mazel tov!

I was invited to attend a Law School class of first-year students studying brief writing and appellate oral argument. The centerpiece of the class was a videotape of my oral argument before the New York Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, in a case involving the privacy rights of hospital patients. The class was great fun — the students had good questions and, since I had won the case, I was happy to talk about it.

I am writing this in March for this, the Summer issue. I wish you and your loved ones a happy and safe summer.

1965

Leonard B. Pack
924 West End Ave.
New York, NY 10025
leonard@packlaw.us

Dr. **Arthur "Archie" Roberts** was designated by the Saint Patrick's Committee of Holyoke, Mass., as the 61st recipient of the John Fitzgerald Kennedy Award, which is presented annually to an American of Irish descent who has distinguished himself in his chosen field.

Jeffrey Bell died at 74 on February 10, 2018. His passing was noted in significant obituaries in *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal,* and in an editorial in *The Wall Street Journal.* Jeff was a conservative economic theorist who also entered the political arena and defeated Sen. Clifford Case of New Jersey in the New Jersey Republican primary in 1978, although he lost the general 1978 election to Bill Bradley. Jeff did it again in 2014, winning the Republican Party's nomination for Senate and running against the incumbent Democrat, Cory Booker. Although Jeff lost, he captured 43 percent of the vote.

Bradley was quoted in the *Times* obituary: "You learn a lot about somebody when he's your opponent. Jeff was a man of ideas, he was a man of principle and he never took a cheap shot. Later when I became an advocate for tax reform — closing loopholes and lowering rates — Jeff was a real ally."

Those who attended our class' 50th reunion might remember that Jeff had volunteered to take part in our Economics Forum. He backed out only a few days before the reunion, citing illness, and **Jay Woodworth** stepped in for Jeff. I was sorry to have missed the chance to hear Jeff defend his advocacy for a return to the gold standard.

Readers might recall that my Winter 2017–18 column included news from Houston classmates recounting their experiences with Hurricane Harvey. **Larry Guido** (ljgmfacs@icloud.com) pointed out that classmates in Florida and Puerto Rico devastated by Hurricanes Irma and Maria should not be overlooked: "Most if not all of the Keys from Key Largo down to Key West were devastated," he writes. "My partner and I live in Key Largo at the Ocean Reef Club. The Keys are really just now (January 27) being rehabilitated. The amount of the population that was evacuated and lost their homes has been incalculable. We have been supplying the upper and middle Keys with police protection, firefighters, food and clothing. The tremendously frightening devastation to flora, fauna and human beings was not to be believed.

"When we came back from Italy and Paris in early October, I found that my condo was attacked and severely infected by black mold. Although my condo building was not affected by a direct storm surge, the entire area had lost power for more than a week. The lack of air conditioning allowed the mold to flourish. The wind gusts of close to 150 mph caused the building to torque upon itself. This allowed for wind-driven rain to enter many of the supposedly secure joints of the building. It has been uninhabitable since the second week in October. I had to have an industrial dry cleaner take all my clothes and cleanse them from the mold. Food was destroyed. Mattresses needed to be thoroughly cleaned. The mold remediation company had to remove the walls of my condo and go down to bare cinderblock and infrastructure.

"Because of the many residents who were impacted, the construction companies are busier than they have ever been. My condo is now just getting rebuilt. I was looking forward to being back in by the end of March. Also, **Ron Chevako** (ron_pri@chevako.net) and his family live in Puerto Rico. That island is yet suffering."

I followed up with Ron, who reported, "The aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria is almost as challenging as the immediate recovery period. We at the Jane Stern Dorado Community Library, which my wife, Anne, and I run, are still being inundated with offers of goods for distribution as well as cash; the goods are easier to use. The same is true of the local Dorado Rotary Club, of which I am a past president and, this year, director of community service. Imagine the opportunities we have.

"Our town of Dorado, with a population of less than 40,000, lost 625 residences (blown away or at least rendered inhabitable and unrepairable, i.e., start from scratch after you clear the debris). We found out through Rotary — as we are beginning to be involved in roof repairs — that 1,175 wooden houses had their roofs blown off and suffered damage to walls. Many other towns and areas were far worse off.

"The initial rescue phase right after the hurricanes gave little opportunity for us to participate. In our neighborhood of 75 substantial concrete houses — after checking on neighbors and holding a community meeting on security arrangements without power — it was decided to have a voluntary work party on the Saturday after the Wednesday hurricane. Neighbors helped those who could not clear their property of debris, and by day-end, using two trucks, one 'loader' and a lot of muscle (periodically supplemented by beverages), three-quarters of our urbanization was cleared. Old friendships were deepened and new friendships were made. …

"Things were much worse elsewhere and many people in these 'better' surroundings began to mobilize assistance efforts to others less fortunate. Some simply loaded their vans and SUVs and headed to the worst hit mountain and beach areas, despite difficult to impassable road conditions and limited gasoline obtained by standing hours in line. I saw little of this activity but what I saw was orderly process despite an air of desperate people having great needs. The same was true with food and water distribution even in the early days of the aftermath. Of course, there were exceptions. The ugly portion of humanity that invariably rears its head was far, far outweighed by genuine acts of kindness by people only looking for a smile and a thank you.

"Things got better and we are now at the beginning of the rebuilding stage with incredible economic and political difficulties to overcome. The central government is trying hard, as are most of the municipal governments. The federal government's immediate assistance has greatly diminished, although we still have significant FEMA presence. Thank goodness for the sizeable nonprofit sector, religious and otherwise. I am pleased to say I still see many examples of people-to-people assistance.

"It has been a long, tough process and the reality is we are only beginning, with a significantly reduced population. We — like most people who stayed — have many heartwarming and funny stories. We moved to Dorado because our son, daughter, son-in-law and the world's greatest grandchild lived there; we are 10 houses away from them."

In my Spring 2018 column I wrote about my plan to meet **Larry Wallach** at the Metropolitan Opera on March 12. It happened, after a stupendous performance of Strauss' *Elektra*, conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin. Larry is diminishing his teaching role but using the extra time for composing and to hone his keyboard skills. Retirement as a time for extra creativity: Sounds like a plan!

The Spring column also contained a rave review by **Steve Steinig** of Daniel Mendelsohn's book, *An Odyssey: A Father, a Son, and an Epic*. Shortly after I received Steve's submission, a good friend stopped by carrying that very book; I requested a loan, and I recently finished reading it. I second Steve's praise — it will bring you back to first-year Literature Humanities as it recounts the author's experiences teaching the ancient text to a small group of undergraduates, albeit with his 81-year-old father sitting in on the classes.

Michael Schlanger (michael@schlanger-consulting.com) provided thoughts on his life transition plan in a letter he wrote to his classmates at the Columbia School of Social Work: "After much reflection over the past weeks, I have decided to leave CSSW to return to public service through my first career of 50 years, the law.

"My decision distilled down to a moral cost-benefit analysis: Now, and over the next several years, perhaps as long as 15–20 years, through which path can I best serve society, as a citizen and as a patriot?

"If I were to continue as a CSSW student, the earliest I could begin work as a psychotherapist would be summer 2019, and then would need to be supervised for two years before I could be licensed and practice on my own. That would take me to summer 2021, when I would be nearing 78.

"On the other hand, if I were to return to public service through the law, I can serve society in many of the same ways, but four years sooner. As a current (and 35-year) member of the Board of Trustees of the Washington Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, I could step right back in to work with the committee. So, too, with the other pro bono legal services organizations with which I long have been affiliated, for example, the Children's Law Center; the Neighborhood Legal Services Program; Ayuda.

"Moreover, my 50-plus-year passion for (and active involvement in) liberal/progressive/humanist politics still burns brightly, and the 2018 mid-term elections will be among the most important in American history, as they will decide the future of all the issues most important to our society (including to the missions of CSSW), including Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, immigration, clean air and water, climate change, civil rights, voting rights, women's rights, LGBTQ rights, human rights, civil liberties, anti-imperialism and the rule of law itself.

"Applying that moral cost-benefit analysis, I realize I need to return to public service through the practice of law and applied political science.

"I am deeply grateful for the intellectual companionship, moral support and friendship of so many of you. What might have been a difficult readjustment to academe was made easy (and fun) by your daily kindnesses. Please let me know if I



can assist in any way as you move forward with your promising careers at CSSW and beyond."

1966

Rich Forzani
413 Banta Ave.
Garfield, NJ 07026
rforzani1@optonline.net

From **Bruce Trinkley:** "Greetings from Dorland Mountain Arts Colony in southern California, with magnificent views of Mount San Jacinto and the Temecula Valley vineyards, where I'm in the midst of a composer residency, arranging songs with lyrics by John Latouche '37. Latouche wrote two Varsity Shows and went on to a distinguished career as a lyricist for Duke Ellington, Vernon Duke, Jerome Moross and Douglas Moore. He is best known for writing the lyrics to *The Golden Apple* and the libretto for *The Ballad of Baby Doe.*

"I have had two wonderful premieres recently: in October, the Goshen College Chamber Choir performed my *Mennonite Songs,* settings of poems by Julia Kasdorf that chronicle her Mennonite heritage; and in November, *Two Invocations (Kyrie and Agnus Dei),* performed by members of the Lviv Chamber Choir and the Lemberg Sinfonietta in the Saints Peter and Paul Garrison Church in Lviv, Ukraine. (All are encouraged to visit Lviv before it is discovered by tourist crowds: the tourist motto is 'Lviv it up!')"

From **Rich Beggs:** "I recently attended the 50th reunion of my Air Force flight school class. It was held in San Antonio, Texas, and we took a day trip to our old pilot training base (Laughlin AFB) in Del Rio, Texas. Also, I am to soon attend the Wounded Warriors Project bike ride in Hot Springs, Ark., with my son Rick. It's a four-day event and I'm in training now, especially to harden my butt. I continue to devote my time and money to this and other charities."

Steven Leichter says: "Greetings from Columbus, Ga.! By the time this is published, I will have sold the Endocrinology Center we built to Piedmont Columbus Regional Healthcare. It is an exciting moment for me and those who built this program, because it assures us that Columbus and most of southwest Georgia will continue to have a major endocrine center going forward. When we moved here 23 years ago, there was little or no endocrinology in the area.

"No, I am not retiring (yet). I enjoy endocrinology and patient care too much. But Sydney and I do spend time on our five children and six grandchildren, most of whom live here. Last night we saw one of our grandchildren, Sam Leichter, play a lead role in a high school play at one of the schools here. Sam is in middle school. Tonight, we will eat with our old friend and lawyer, Dave, at one of the best restaurants in the United States, right here in Columbus. Last week we enjoyed the Columbus symphony, which is the second oldest in the country. And when not in Columbus, we are sitting on the beach or playing golf at the Fairmont Orchid in Kona, Hawaii. So we have come to a good place in life in our senior years.

"If any classmates happen to be in Columbus, please call us, or just ask someone how to find us. There are not too many Leichters in the city. Best wishes to all of the class!"

Steven, why can't we call you in Kona?

Calvin Johnson: "The 2017 tax cut is a waste of $2.4 trillion as an incentive to capital. Capital is already in glut. The returns on capital are lower than inflation, meaning that no one is finding any positive value from investment. The tax bill makes it worse both by creating tax shelters generating not tax but negative tax or subsidy, and by inducing foreign capital to come to America and drive down American investment returns. Finding positive return from investment is the only link between the giveaway and some general good, and they are not going to find positive-return investments. So said my last tax article. I still write, still teach at Texas, not retired yet."

Verbose **Randall Bourscheidt** tells us, "Recently went to part-time as clinical professor of pediatrics at the Uniformed Services University School of Medicine."

After a six-month hiatus, we hear again from the well-traveled **Rich Postupak.** "Gents, things had been necessarily quiet for me of late, given cessation of the political campaigns and my chef contracts. However, thanks to the friendship and generosity of fellow '66ers, it has still been an enjoyable period.

"Hung out with **Larry Lebow** and **Fred Lerner** in early February; they graciously treated me to a delicious Mongolian barbecue experience. I downed many mugs of fermented yak milk while singing songs of the Great Khan. Shortly after that marvelous time, I found myself at **Stan Felsinger**'s home with his terrific family. Stan took great pains to explain rather firmly why I couldn't put butter on my corned beef sandwich, so I settled for mustard. Not bad! **Billy Karp** and **Gary Kopf** brought me up to date on their escapades as well, although it was over a sedate breakfast. It seems that they are both very involved in non-aerobic competitive slow walking, the aim of which is to maintain a sub-72 pulse rate as well as discernible forward motion. Crazy stuff!"

Michael Garrett is attempting to transition from the legal profession to that of travel writer, and sends us his latest effort from Panama. He requests any critical comments you think appropriate, at any time of night you wish. "The link to my album of images from our trip to Panama is gandalflion.smugmug.com/2018-Panama. When you arrive at the album by left-clicking on the link — or on some computers, pressing CTRL and left-clicking — use the up and down arrows on your keyboard to navigate the album. Do not choose the full-screen option because it changes my intended shapes of the images and crops out some important content."

Michael is also investigating tech support as another income enhancement.

He continues, "The album is not a strict travelogue. I have regrouped the images and reordered our visits to suit my own vison of our Panama experience. I hope you enjoy the result. As always, the process of viewing the album is greatly enhanced by the presence of a glass of fine wine in the left hand."

Well, now, another signpost of advancing age. Wine?

Richard Forzani now reports on himself. He and his wife, Kathy, had the great pleasure of attending the 70th birthday celebration of Barbara Kurzweil, wife of **Harvey Kurzweil** and a wonderful person. Despite the preponderance of attorneys present, the event was very enjoyable. He had the great honor of meeting one of the Kurzweil relatives who had flown in from Israel for the event, and who was a participant in the Entebbe raid.

It has, deliberately, been one and a half years since I conveyed personal health info. This is a brief update. Initially projected in July 2016 to have three to six months, I am still present, stabilized and telling tall stories. The chemo has been effective and not too onerous. I feel good, am enjoying my life and taking it six months at a time, with the attitude that everything now is the bonus round and I'm already ahead of the game. I send my very sincere good wishes and empathy to all our classmates who are contending with serious health issues. Stay strong, friends.

Michael Schlanger '65, after much reflection, has decided to leave his studies at the School of Social Work and return to public service through his first career of 50 years, the law.

1967

Albert Zonana
425 Arundel Rd.
Goleta, CA 93117
az164@columbia.edu

I heard from **Peter Basilevsky** LAW'72: "After a half a century of silence, I guess it's about time to send you a brief update on my life since graduation. I graduated from the Law School after an interim three-year hiatus as an officer in the Navy. Upon graduation I went to work with the law firm of Burke & Burke (now Satterlee Stephens), where I spent my entire legal career specializing in corporate law, retiring as counsel in 2016.

"In 1972, I married the brilliant and beautiful Bette Nyhlen (Vassar '70) and we settled in New York City, raising two lovely children, Katharine and Alex, both now married with children. Bette, who

started as a Citi banker, became a radiologist, having attended Weill Cornell Medical School and becoming chief resident radiologist at New York Hospital before going into private practice. After 20 years in the city, in 1991 we moved to Cos Cob, Conn., and two years ago we moved to Newtown Square, Pa., to be close to our son, an attorney in Philadelphia, and his family. Over the years I have been involved in alumni affairs, having served stints as an alumni senator and as president of the Columbia Alumni Federation (precursor of the Columbia Alumni Association), the Society of Columbia Graduates and the Fairfield County Alumni Club. I've stayed in contact with many of my brothers at Phi Gamma Delta. All in all, I've been blessed with the friendship and acquaintance of many wonderful University graduates as well as a happy, quiet and, with the exception of my marriage, unremarkable life."

Jenik Radon updated us on his latest travels and accomplishments: "After a drought of several years, I have finally visited a new country — Papua New Guinea, my country Number 106, which leaves 88 to go. If all goes well, I will be racking up the frequent traveler miles by commuting to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, and advising the government on natural resource development. Also I became a news star of sorts, albeit in Vietnam, at the Asia-Pacific Economic Corp. conference, where I described the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement as a 'lawyers' full employment act.' The TPP is vaguely drafted, has contradictory provisions and, notwithstanding official comments to the contrary, does not really protect the environment, health and other matters of public interest. I gave the keynote on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals at the first meeting of Inter-Pacific Bar Association, which took place in Ho Chi Minh City. My Columbia class at SIPA, 'Panama Papers,' became livelier with the huge data leak, called the Paradise Papers, from a Bermuda law firm — exposing international corporate tax games, as well as corruption, through the use of secret companies. In that vein, my co-authored article, 'Beneficial Ownership Disclosure: The Cure for the Panama Paper Ills,' was published in the Columbia *Journal of International Affairs*. The leading Egyptian oil and gas magazine published my cautionary words on the challenges of the privatization of state-owned enterprises. I have become a regular commentator on I24News, a new worldwide news channel based in Tel Aviv, commenting on everything from the German elections to the increased crime wave in Sweden. The year ended by my spending 'vacation' time at my Mont Tremblant, Québec, condo and enjoying the balmy -25C weather, with a nippy -37C."

Robert Knobler SEAS'69 wrote: "I am professor emeritus from the Department of Dermatology of the Medical University of Vienna and a lecturer at P&S. I have not changed my habits and continue to publish and travel worldwide, sharing my experiences with a technology invented at Columbia, which I contributed to to improve and spread across Europe and Latin America, 'Extracorporeal Photochemotherapy' (photopheresis for short). It is being used to help manage organ transplant rejection (both solid organ as well as bone marrow) and a lymphoma of the skin. I am collaborating on a related subject with one of my old professors, Edward F. Leonard, who was chair in bioengineering! My profession has become my hobby at this stage."

Four classmates took my request for brevity earnestly. **Richard Frances:** "Three children (two doctors), six grandkids, wife Marsha. Still am a practicing addiction psychiatrist in Manhattan."

Romolo Maurizi: "Married to Mary T. O'Connor. Mammographer. Two girls, one boy. Four grandchildren: three boys, one girl. Still playing soccer twice a week! Live in Summit, N.J. Make wine every year."

Fred Roberts: "I earned a Ph.D. in social anthropology with a dissertation based on two years of fieldwork in rural Finland, and was on the faculty of Michigan State University for 30 years. My wife of 49 years, Caralee, was a public health researcher. We retired early to pursue our passions for landscaping and hiking. Our home is now in Eugene, Ore."

Dick Morris '68: "I was Bill Clinton's strategist in the White House. I am a frequent commentator on public issues. I do a daily video on politics, The Lunch Alert, through my website, dickmorris.com, and on Facebook at deep6thedeepstate. I have written 19 books, including 13 bestsellers."

Charles Saydah wrote: "I encourage classmates, wherever they are, to become interviewers of candidates for the College and Columbia Engineering. I got involved three years ago, and have interviewed some 50 applicants for the Classes of 2020, 2021 and 2022. It has been an extraordinarily rewarding experience. Don't let your age inhibit your becoming a volunteer through the Alumni Representative Committee (ARC). The Core makes our experience timeless. If you get involved, you'll discover an abundance of bright, earnest kids who have promising futures. That's heartening, particularly in an age that writes off primary and secondary education as exercises in futility at best and wastes of time at worst. If you get involved, don't let the extreme selectivity of the process discourage you. Of the 50 I've interviewed, only three have been accepted — two outright and one off the waiting list. Of three other waiting list candidates, one wound up at Yale, another at Stanford and a third at Georgetown. Among my rejected applicants last year was a young man who wound up at Harvard. Those are the kinds of high school students you'll be meeting if you get involved. So consider the possibilities — I don't think you'll be disappointed." [Editor's note: Go to college.columbia.edu/alumni/volunteer/alumni-interviewing for more information on ARC.]

Paul Slater sent the following tribute: "In September I flew to Boston to attend the funeral of my college roommate, **Bob Segel.** Sadly, Bob died on September 6, 2017, after a brief illness. Bob was a great roommate. He was irreverent, funny, self-effacing, generous to a fault and, at times, utterly outrageous. Good times just seemed to follow him around. But, mostly, Bob was just a good person and a good friend. The Yiddish term for it is 'mensch.' Loosely translated, it means 'a stand-up guy.' In my book, that is high praise.

"Over the years, Bobby didn't change much. Oh, his hair grew thinner and he gained a few pounds, but his good nature and proclivity for mischief were undiminished. He married a wonderful woman ('out of your league,' I told him) and nothing was more important to him than his children, Julia and Michael. He started a successful investment firm and was widely admired in the investment community. For those of you who were regulars at the Gold Rail, that may be somewhat of a surprise. But then, I'm an attorney and a former law professor. In 1967, that too would have drawn pretty long odds. Having Bob as my roommate certainly didn't make me a more serious student, but it went a long way toward making my four years at Columbia the time of my life, and I got a lifelong friend in the bargain. So the next time the Red Sox play in Chicago, I'm going to get tickets to the game. I'm going to buy a round of beer and I'm going to toast my friend. Here's to ya, Bobby! Here's to ya!"

Be well, all of you. And do write …



1968

Arthur Spector
4401 Collins Ave., 2-1417
Miami Beach, FL 33140
arthurbspector@gmail.com

The Class of '68 dinner and Reunion 2018 will be over by the time this issue comes out, so I thank **Nigel Paneth, John Roy, Tom Sanford** and **Pete Janovsky** for their efforts. I was happy to be the turnout coach, cheerleader and nudger — I hope the hundreds of emails I sent and phone calls I made will have helped (and I'm delighted with the help I received, like from **Mas Taketomo**).

I heard from **Bill Cross** by email. He and **Michael Tracy** had wine outside in Rome — it was a wonderful note, but I wanted to be there, too. I heard from **Tony Taddey,** who

had to be in Central America during reunion (so he is, of course, forgiven), but we expect him at the 55th and 60th reunions. **Bob Chapla** had said he would sign up when he got back from a vacation in Sicily. The class turnout should have surprised the school, as we are supposed to be an unenthusiastic class (inaccurate).

I'm sure the reunion programs will have been stunning, whether it was astrophysicist **Bruce Margon**'s pictures of the universe from the Hubble telescope or **Larry Borger** and **Buzz Zucker** bringing us back to 1968 when we were Ivy Champs in basketball — what other class has done that? And we were the fencing national champs!

Jeff Kestler is signed up at this writing. I hope **Frank Lowy, Jay Dobkin** and **Guy Barbolini** will have shown up. There will have been rowers like Kaufman, Sanford, Torbert, McCown and McCoy (I am sure I missed someone) and football players and **John Davis** and **Tom Mallios** from soccer. I have much happiness in anticipating seeing so many of you, including professor **Bill Chin,** tennis star **Steve Gottlieb** and Clinton expert **Dick Morris.**

I will have written this before I see **George Ting** and **Tony Kao** from Tokyo and **John Chee** from Hong Kong; it has been a long time, it seems. I am looking forward to seeing so many from the class, like **Reid Feldman** from Paris — with whom I had dinner one New Year's Eve by stroke of luck — and, of course, the Massachusetts group, the upstate New York crowd and the Floridians. The singers Rich, Bowzer, Mas, Peter and Jeff (and I am sure I've forgotten many that I have to be forgiven) will be there, and **Janet Furman** as well, whom I hope will have lent a hand on a surprise piece of entertainment.

National travelers from faraway places like Hawaii (**Frank Dann** and **Leigh-Wei Do**) and Alaska (**Bob Carlson**) and folks from Wyoming and New Orleans (I hope **George Bernstein** will have made it — the food is too good in his hometown, maybe). From Texas is **Bill Henrich** and from Westchester is **Bill McDavid;** I wish **Albin Beyer** could come from South Carolina — he was finishing his semester and switching gears to retirement to commit 100 hours a week to painting. (I have one piece of his, he is very talented.)

Hoping to see my roommate, the philosophy major **Robert Brandt,** and star developer **Seth Weinstein,** and public health professor **Jon Kotch** from UNC — he built quite an amazing program — and **David Shapiro,** the poet and art historian (and personal adviser for my modest collection). I hope **Ted Kaptchuk** will have made it, and retired professor of philosophy **David Malament** and **Steve Press, Roger Berkley, Neil Anderson** and **Chris Friedrichs.**

I have missed a lot for sure, guilty as charged — sentenced to sit on Low Steps to think about how lucky I was to run into this amazing group of bright people at this great college in a challenging time for our country and the world and for us young folks.

1969

Michael Oberman
Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
1177 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036
moberman@kramerlevin.com

Mark Leinwand writes: "My days of TV quiz show glory now being ancient history (19 episodes of *Tic-Tac-Dough* in 1980 and five episodes of *Jeopardy* in 1985) and my retirement from entertainment law and business affairs being a bit more recent than that, I have embarked on something very different for the second half. Having long dabbled in short stories and even an unpublished novel, I am now seriously focused on the exploits of my character Morningstar, a professional poker player with unusual abilities, whose origin is a mystery even to him. The introductory story, *Target Unexpected,* was published last year in issue 713 of bewilderingstories.com. Other Morningstar stories are done and in the pipeline. I think there will be many stories with this character as he gets deeper into discovering the extent of his strange powers, while he reluctantly and secretly finds himself forced to use them.

"On a more personal note, on the cusp of 70 I became engaged to be married, for the first time, to a lovely and brilliant woman from England. It just goes to show that on all fronts, it's never too late!"

From **Bob Rabinoff:** "Having retired and shuttered my custom software development practice, in 2015 I took a refresher course to renew my certification to teach Transcendental Meditation. After an unsuccessful attempt to move to Winnipeg and teach there, I moved to Milwaukee. Teaching is of course wonderful, and I've found a warm and welcoming Orthodox Jewish community where I can learn and grow. Milwaukee is a very nice town — 90 miles north of Chicago, but not nearly as frenzied (except during Green Bay Packers games). The slower, Midwestern pace and the lower (i.e., affordable!) housing prices make it quite livable and enjoyable, even after 41 years living in rural Iowa.

"On the family front, Eve recently had a book published, *Perception in Aristotle's Ethics*. She teaches at the University of Minnesota at Duluth. Daniel will I hope have defended his dissertation at the University of Toronto, also in philosophy, and has started a job as an ontologist at an AI firm in Austin. Joseph and his wife, Kirsten, have received tenure, effective August 15, in the math department at Georgia Tech. Shoshanah is an R.N. in labor and delivery in Palo Alto, Calif., where her husband, Erik, is getting a Psy.D."

Ron Rosenblatt writes: "**Jim Alloy, Rick Rose, Max Carey** and I kept in touch through the years. Unfortunately, we lost Max last year to leukemia. In September, Rick, Jimmy and I joined a dozen or more old friends from Beta and football at the Homecoming game against Penn (where I won bragging rights over one of my daughters, who went to Penn). It was a wonderful day followed by a fun evening on campus. This past January my wife, Susy, our dog and I drove from our home in Iowa to southeast Florida, where we rented a home for five weeks and enjoyed the sun and sand. On the way down we stopped at the Alloys' second home on Amelia Island. Susy is a retired TV news anchor. We have two daughters (30 and 28). The Penn engineer, our older daughter, is the director of transmission for the American Wind Energy Association; our younger daughter is an associate at a large law firm in Kansas City."

From **Andy Markovits:** "I have been the Karl W. Deutsch Collegiate Professor of Comparative Politics and German Studies, as well as an Arthur F. Thurnau Professor in the Department of Political Science and the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, at the University of Michigan. I remain an active teacher and researcher in my fields of interest, which also include the study of comparative sports cultures in the United States and other industrial democracies. I was awarded the Cross of the Order of Merit First Class by the President of the Federal Republic of Germany in March 2012. This distinction is the highest that the Federal Republic of Germany bestows on any civilian, German or foreign. I live happily with my wife, Kiki, and our current Golden Retriever, Cody (the last in a series of seven Golden Retrievers who have enriched my life massively), in Ann Arbor."

Don Schenk reports: "The Aeronautical Society of South Africa gave me the John Weston Award, the society's highest award, for the work I am doing to create human capital in South Africa."

Mark Leinwand '69 is now "seriously focused" on the exploits of his short stories' character Morningstar, a professional poker player with unusual abilities.

From **David Hummon:** "In 2011 I retired from Holy Cross College in Worcester, Mass., where I was a professor of sociology for three decades. Three years later, I lost Patricia Taylor, my wife and companion of 38 years, who died suddenly and unexpectedly. Since then, I have moved to the Boston area, married the wonderful Mary Mark Hummon, pursued my interests in painting, writing and travel, and have enjoyed time with family and six grandchildren."

Jory Berkwits writes: "Thank you, Michael, for so gently referring to old age as the 'next chapter.' Whatever you call it, I am there, retired (in Florida, no less) — and whenever I am not seeing a doctor for one thing or another, I spend my

time writing, mentoring business owners for SCORE and trying to catch fish in the Gulf of Mexico. My new book is *Death of the Dinosaur: How Wall Street Has Changed and Where It is Headed,* a retrospective about my 40 years on Wall Street and how the industry has changed — both for better and worse."

Bill Stadiem's *Madame Claude: Her Secret World of Pleasure, Privilege, and Power* was published in May [see "Bookshelf," this issue]. Based on conversations with Madame Claude and interviews with men and women in her orbit, Bill portrays her life and her notorious and successful escort service. Bill adds: "Have been living mostly in France for the last two years researching my Madame Claude book. I've never met more of the 'beautiful people' than with this project — even more than with my 2014 book *Jet Set: The People, the Planes, the Glamour, and the Romance in Aviation's Glory Years*, about the Pan Am era. I remember a Pan Am Columbia charter that got us to Paris for less than $100 (plus all the champagne we could drink). I think we lived higher on the hog as students than we do today, even in fat cat careers. A suite at the Ritz was $25 a night, a three-star dinner at La Tour d'Argent the same. An hour with a legendary 'Claude girl,' often the next Brigitte Bardot or Catherine Deneuve, was $40.

"I met Madame Claude in Beverly Hills in the early '80s when, in exile from Giscard d'Estaing's tax collectors, she ran a patisserie in Pacific Palisades called Le Canard, which was a front for her real business of introducing beautiful European women to stars and moguls. I met a lot of them through her and liked it out here so much I decided to stay. I see **Neal Handel, Hoffer Kaback, Matthew Negru, Joe Scharfstein** and **Steve Valenstein**, plus **Jeff Sydney,** who recently passed away — brilliant guy."

Nathaniel Wander retired from a research position in anthropology and global public health at the University of Edinburgh in 2011. After living in Belize for five years, where he was studying avian evolutionary ecology, he returned to the States after being shot in the back at the end of 2016. (Someone foolishly decided he was a rich gringo worth killing and robbing.) He resettled in Portland, Ore., where he continues work on a memoir almost ready for publishing. Its working title is *You Are Here — X: Tales from the Evolution of an Anthropologist.* Three chapters have appeared in print since December and a fourth is scheduled to appear in July.

Jack Schachner writes, "Isabella Trinh Hoang Schachner, our first grandchild, was born in Hanoi on October 2. Our son Alec '08 has lived in Vietnam since graduating from the College. My wife and I traveled to Ninh Bình, which is about 90 minutes from Hanoi by car (on what is likely Vietnam's only two-lane divided highway toll road), to be at Izzy's one-month birthday celebration. My daughter-in-law Tina's family lives in Ninh Bình. About 80 family members and friends attended the party. Tina's family couldn't possibly have been more hospitable. I was the second oldest person at the gathering — only Tina's grandfather is older — which I mention because the standard greeting in Vietnam is 'Hello. How old are you?' Each time I replied that I was 70, I was treated like a very special person and was referred to thereafter with words reserved only for elders, who are highly esteemed. I wonder if any classmates need to travel 29 hours door to door each way to see their grandchildren?

"Although I am retired from the practice of law, I continue to be appointed regularly as the Referee at foreclosure sales. I enjoy visiting the courthouses I was in daily for 35 years (the last 12 as a judge in Supreme Court). I settled 1,023 of the 1,034 cases assigned to me (900 were divorces) and presided at the trial of the other 11 lawsuits. I regularly play pickleball and tennis, walk my Golden Retriever, shovel snow and so on for a total of about seven miles a day, according to my Fitbit. My wife and I go to four jazz concerts a year at Miller Theatre, on campus, with so many fond memories of my college years."

Classmates: We are now the 50th reunion class, counting down to Reunion 2019 next spring.

Albie Hecht '74, after producing movies, is now the chief content officer at pocket.watch, responsible for overseeing content and character development.

1970

Leo G. Kailas
Reitler Kailas & Rosenblatt
885 Third Ave., 20th Fl.
New York, NY 10022
lkailas@reitlerlaw.com

A sincere thank you to **Emanuel Ax**, who kindly agreed to perform a benefit concert for the Literacy Network of South Berkshire on May 26 and was scheduled to be at the Mahaiwe Theater in Great Barrington, Mass. My wife is on the board of this worthwhile organization, which provides free educational instruction and support services to adults in the southern Berkshires.

David Lehman sent the following about his recent publication: "*Next Line, Please: Prompts to Inspire Poets and Writers* was published on March 15. The book comprises most of the columns I posted on The American Scholar website from May 2014, when we launched the project with a 'crowd-sourced sonnet,' until November 2016. Each week I posted a poetry prompt, or challenge; participants entered their work in the contents field, and in the following week's column I single out those worthy of special praise. I continue to do it online at bit.ly/2HIZIsW."

Scott Simon, who said that he was meeting his quota of submitting once every 50 years, sent the following interesting note about what he has done since graduation: "Heading toward the 50th anniversary of Sha Na Na's performance at Woodstock in 1969, as well as the 50th reunion of the Class of '70, two golden milestones that give pause for a look back. As a performer I was 'discovered' at a freshman Barnard mixer playing piano during The Walkers breaks by Bob Merlis '69, who asked if I had a band. Of course I said yes. The event was a MUFUTOM, an acronym for Music and Fun on Tuesday, and four days later my thrown-together band was rocking the Lions Den. Four years later, after a multi-year stint with the campus blues band The Royal Pythons, I joined Sha Na Na. I knew the guy who invented the band, George Leonard '67, from 6th floor John Jay Hall, also home to notable lifelong musical friends Mark Wenner '71, **Stephen Dydo** and Gregg Geller '69, who dubbed me 'Screamin' Scott.' What ensued with joining the bigtime group was tireless touring, recording, taping 97 episodes of our eponymous TV series and acting in the movie *Grease*, for which I co-wrote John Travolta's solo 'Sandy.'

"I assumed the title of managing partner for the band in the early '80s and, along with fellow original members Don York '71 and Jocko Marcellino '72, tour on. One generation later, all glory now goes to my daughters, who have recently published significant books. Nina Simon has followed up her first book, *The Participatory Museum*, with *The Art of Relevance*. Morgan Simon penned the recent *Real Impact: The New Economics of Social Change.* They are both leading theoreticians and practitioners in their respective fields.

"My wife of almost 20 years, Deborah, and I 'retired' to Ojai last year. A beautiful town, recently plagued by fire and flood. The pull of my transcendent granddaughter, Rocket Mo Simon, in Santa Cruz may yet pull us further north. Sha Na Na plans to put together a show on campus for the Class of '69 reunion to celebrate their and our 50th. Don't blink!"

From **Larry Rosenwald** GSAS'79: "Last January, in the context of Wellesley College's Albright Institute, I had the honor of conducting a public conversation with Sally Yates who, as acting Attorney General, honorably refused to enforce the first of President Trump's travel bans and was fired. Ms. Yates had indicated she'd prefer a public conversation to a lecture — the directors of the institute delighted me by asking me to conduct that conversation, and I did. She is utterly genuine, eloquent, undogmatic, unpretentious and wise. I'll remember the encounter with her as long as I live. Anyone interested in seeing the interview can find it online at bit.ly/2qJxqGF.

1971

Jim Shaw
139 North 22nd St.
Philadelphia, PA 19103
jes200@columbia.edu

We might not have any notes this issue, but our CC'71 connection is always strong. Please take a moment to share your news — your classmates want to hear from you. Remember back 51 (*fifty-one!*) years ago and the feelings we had, including of adventure, as we entered Columbia College. *We are still connected.*

1972

Paul S. Appelbaum
39 Claremont Ave., #24
New York, NY 10027
pappel1@aol.com

Happy summer, Class of '72! There's no news this time, so be sure to send in your notes so we can have a robust Fall column! Travel, family, careers, life musings — *CCT* wants to hear it. I can be reached at either of the addresses at the top of this column. Be well this summer!

1973

Barry Etra
1256 Edmund Park Dr. NE
Atlanta, GA 30306
betra1@bellsouth.net

Forty-five years sounds like what *used* to be a lifetime ago. I hope most of us are beginning our second lives!

Marc Jaffe LAW'76 is deep into his "encore career" running the Children's Learning Centers of Fairfield County, in Stamford, Conn. He says it's "very rewarding and impactful, with some of it quite innovative and potentially breakthrough"; it serves nearly 1,000 children a day. Marc's wife of 24 years, May, is an award-winning producer and director of audiobooks and their son, Aaron '21, plays on the Ultimate Frisbee team. Marc says participating in the Convocation for his son was "glorious," and that there's "an energy and spirit there we never would have imagined in 1973."

Al Cain was able to retire early (in 2012) and has been "indulging several interests." He competed in 10 triathlons both in his age group and as a "Clydesdale" (men more than 200 pounds); he learned to play the viola and has progressed to the local community orchestra; and he has been a docent with the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in Southern California, giving tours and presentations to kids in the Los Angeles area. Otherwise, he can be found playing "mediocre golf" when he isn't traveling.

Hope you all had a wonderful time at Reunion 2018! Write to me and tell me about it!

1974

Fred Bremer
532 W. 111th St.
New York, NY 10025
f.bremer@ml.com

"Horam expecta" — await the hour, it shall come. This inscription is written on the Sundial in the center of campus. It was fitting that the 1968 protests began at the Sundial 50 years ago this past April 23; a week later five buildings were occupied.

I bet not a single talking head noted that the March 23 "March for Life" (the protest about guns in general and especially the recent school shootings) took place almost exactly on the anniversary of the Columbia protest. Watching the students give their "we're going to change the world" speeches brought back memories of our own protests against the Vietnam War. Just as we faced the prospect of being shot in a far-off Asian locale, the students today face the threat of being shot at their own schools, at concerts or somewhere else.

If you think you had a busy year-end to 2017, think of **Stuart Offner** (a commercial real estate attorney at Mintz Levin, living in a Boston suburb). Two of his three kids were married within three weeks! Sophia (second year at BU Law) tied the knot at the end of December, and Ted (doing software at Microsoft in San Francisco) was hitched in January.

Meanwhile, middle child Olivia has moved from her position as VP of corporate communications at BlackRock (a giant investment firm) to Weber Shandwick (a PR firm in Manhattan) to become VP in its financial services practice. Ted is also moving soon (from San Francisco to Boston), but will still work for Microsoft.

Stuart tells us he does a lot of his commercial real estate work in both Boston and New York, but also works on real estate all over the country.

I read in a Facebook post from **Bob Adler** (retired and living in Belfast, Maine) that he was thrilled that his daughter, Rachel, was in the audience singing along with Patti Smith last March in Montclair, N.J. He posted that it was "about 42 years after I was first mesmerized by Patti Smith at The Bottom Line in New York City."

Seems like a lot of water has "flowed under the bridge" since we were at The Bottom Line, Village Vanguard, Filmore East and all the other great venues.

I got word from **Barry Gruber** (who lives in Rochester, N.Y.) that he has "informed the powers that be at work of my momentous decision to retire at the end of the 2018–19 school year." He adds, "It will definitely be a little scary, but after 43 years in the workforce I am ready for the next adventure."

It is hard to keep up with the career of **Albie Hecht** (living in Montclair, N.J.). After producing movies such as *The Spongebob Squarepants Movie*, starting Spike TV ("the network for men") and starting the creative company Worldwide Biggies, we now learn he is the chief content officer at pocket.watch, where he is responsible for overseeing content and character development of the brand's slate of content and franchise properties. I will try to get more details for a future column.

I saw a Facebook post from **Barry Klayman** (partner at the law firm Cozen O'Connor in Philadelphia) that his daughter, Ali, had a documentary premiere at SXSW (South by Southwest) last March; it was quickly picked up by Netflix. Called *Take Your Pills*, it is about how it is increasingly common for many adults to take prescription stimulants like Adderall — and not just for ADHD. The film is about how the pressure to succeed is leading people to take the drugs to give them a performance edge.

There you have it. Classmates "keepin' on/keepin' on" in their careers of many decades while others are "movin' on" to new ventures. As always, our progeny continue to amaze. Pass on news about you and yours — what could it "hoit"?

1975

Randy Nichols
734 S. Linwood Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21224
rcn2day@gmail.com

Fernando Castro spent much of the spring on an extended visit to Columbia (the one in South Carolina, if you hadn't guessed already!).

In February, **Jim Dolan** had a big day as daughter Zoe Dolan wed Glen Halperin SPS'16 in Philadelphia at Front & Palmer. Zoe graduated from Franklin & Marshall in Lancaster, Pa., with a major in art history and is a cultural events producer at the Onassis Foundation USA in NYC. Glen is an associate at Morgan Stanley and earned a master's from Columbia in sustainability management. And then, Philadelphia turned green for Jim's birthday, and it wasn't even St. Patrick's Day. Jim woke up



Charlie Lindsay '75 and Joe Seldner '73 took an early April drive in Palm Beach, Fla., in Lindsay's classic 1959 Cadillac.

to between two and three million people celebrating in the streets [after the Eagles' Super Bowl win].

Peter Garza-Zavaleta did more touring in the spring, spending Easter in Prague.

After many years, and several major relocations to experience and celebrate cultural differences, **Phelps Hawkins** has set aside syllabi and lesson plans. He and his wife, Sandra, will spend some time at his "beloved" lake in New York and will winter at their "gorgeous new home" on Skidaway Island in Savannah, Ga.

As classmates, cousins and others around me retire, it's interesting how emails come into play. Many, like some classmates, used a branded/corporate/institutional email. Some have never had personal emails, and getting one now can be quite amusing to observe. Classmates, if your email does change, please be sure to let me know! [Editor's note: And the Alumni Office, too: college.columbia.edu/cct/contact-us.]

1976

Ken Howitt
1114 Hudson St., Apt. 8
Hoboken, N.J. 07030
kenhowitt76@gmail.com

Plenty of updates this time, for which your faithful scribe is very appreciative. Once again I did hear from the Syracuse area, and the Goodriches' faithful pup, Mika, is barking like crazy 6–9 a.m., Monday to Friday. She gives Linda and **Dennis Goodrich** a break on the weekends.

As I mentioned in the last *CCT*, I saw **Gordon Kit** at the Lenfest Center for the Arts on the Manhattanville campus for the Dr. Saul and Dorothy Kit Film Noir Festival. The festival is funded for the next 10 years, so watch for communications from the University for next spring's event.

Derrick Tseng also attended the festival, but we did not recognize each other there. He reached out afterward and we met in April for coffee to reminisce about 10 Carman. He was happy to hear that **Dave Merzel** and **Leeber Cohen,** my roommates from Suite 1014, occasionally check in. Derrick is in touch with his 1015 roommate **Kevin Koplin,** who "still has a full bag of Pepperidge Farm chocolate chip cookies mixed into a quart of whole milk for dinner." Derrick is immersed behind the camera in film production and even thinks there still might be a career in that. We were amazed at how young we both look (no picture to prove that!) and promised to see each other sooner than the 20 years that these cups of coffee took. Mind you, Derrick took advantage of my "come to Manhattan offer" to all '76ers. I even picked up the tab with my hefty *CCT* expense account (NOT!).

Tim Teeter GSAS'89 reported: "I live in Savannah, Ga. I have been married to the same woman since 1984 but have no kids. I got my Ph.D. in history from GSAS. I have been teaching classical history at Georgia Southern University since 1991 and occasionally publish. I've been taking students for summer study in Italy for several years now. I'm in the Columbia neighborhood from time to time. You're welcome to scroll through my Facebook page if you want anything more. If I think of anything else I'll send it along."

Our class' 2017 John Jay Award honoree, **Toomas Hendrick Ilves,** sent the following: "It's been years since I wrote anything for *CCT* Class Notes, but ... After I finished my second term as president of Estonia in October 2016, I moved to Stanford, where I am today a 'Distinguished Visiting Fellow' (sic! — and I must always identify myself as such, by my contract) at the Hoover Institution, writing about digital issues, especially as they relate to democracy, in other words, hacking, disinformation, doxxing, data mining and so on. The previous 25 years were spent digitizing my country. If anyone is interested on what we achieved, the best article on this to date can be found in the December 18, 2017, issue of *The New Yorker*. Otherwise I have four kids, ranging in age from 30 to 1 year, spread around the world — Brussels, Tallinn, Boulder and, of course, Palo Alto."

Robert M. Siegfried SEAS'78 checked in: "I'm at Adelphi, having been there 19 years. My son, Jason, is a computer science major and has been in two of my classes. My wife, Kathy, and I are married 23 years and live in Oceanside, N.Y., on the south shore of Long Island."

Steve Mackey PS'85, GSAS'93, who holds up the Class of 1976 banner with a few of us at the annual Class Day Alumni Parade of Classes, contributed the following: "Columbia remains the basis for my educational foundation, career and home. I am in my 23rd year at P&S as an associate professor of medicine. I spend 90 percent of my time in clinical education, where I organize the outpatient curriculum for the medical interns, precept residents in the clinic and wards, and lecture medical, M.D. and Ph.D. students. My passion remains to be learning. Over the last 16 years I have taken more than 40 classes in math, engineering and physics. I still live one block from my freshman dormitory — John Jay — with my amazing wife and daughter. We are active in the highly eclectic, vibrant and only remaining synagogue in Harlem."



WKCR alumni celebrated at a gathering hosted by Russ Behrman '77 and his wife, Cindy. Left to right, Behrman, Ken Howitt '76, Tom Mariam '78, Jim Miller '70, Shari Teitelbaum BC'79 and Steve Teitelbaum '77.

Another New Yorker, **Walter Rivera,** sent the following: "Gov. Andrew Cuomo appointed me as a judge of the NYS Court of Claims on June 14, 2017, and I was confirmed by the New York State Senate on June 19, 2017. I sit in the White Plains and NYC Districts of the Court. Prior thereto, I was elected as a Town Justice in Greenburgh in Westchester County and served in that capacity on a part-time basis from 2012 until my recent appointment. I also teach as an adjunct law professor at the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace and as an adjunct professor at the College of Westchester. I enjoy the new challenges and the ability to serve in the public sector after a run of 32 years in private practice. I am humbled to be one of three honorees at an event to be held during Reunion 2018, chosen by Barnard and Columbia minority alumni. I have three children and four grandchildren. Two of my children are out of college and my youngest son graduated in May. My daughter Aiyana '02 is a child psychiatrist. My wife, Isabel, and I are empty-nesters and enjoy spending time with family and friends."

Samuel Hurwitz headlined the following: "My big items of news are: (i) my daughter, Rachael, is getting married in May, (ii) my son, Jake, is getting married in August, (iii) my wife, Laura, started a cookie business (jakesmomscookies.com), and (iv) my wife and I got a dog."

Perhaps Sam's dog and Mika should get together in New York State for a political discussion.

Rich Rohr, who served with me in 1975 on the WKCR Board

Columbia College Alumni on Facebook
facebook.com/alumnicc
Like the page to get alumni news, learn about alumni events and College happenings, view photos and more.

of Directors, reflected on the past, present and future: "Our class headed almost entirely for law school and medical school. Forty-two years later I find myself out of medical practice and working for Optum (the nice part of United Health Group) on applying artificial intelligence to medical documentation. Despite what you hear about AI taking over the world, computers have a hard time understanding the context in which words are used, and a lot of my job has to do with figuring out how to insert human judgment efficiently into automated processes. It is very different from what I expected to do in 1976, and I suspect that many of you are doing something other than what you intended at graduation. It points to the value of a Columbia College education — a broad understanding of the world and the forces that shape it. This education can take you anywhere you want to go.

"One of my coworkers has a daughter entering NYU this fall. She did not want to attend Columbia because it has too many required courses. It is true that I was only able to take one course that did not fulfill a requirement other than total points. The way that I see it, the faculty did a great job of pointing us toward the information that we need to navigate a complex and changing world. If you need a reminder of how well Columbia does that, be sure to attend our next reunion."

Well said, Rich. I have always considered life to be a voyage, with plenty of both calm and rough seas, which produces challenges and I hope rewards. Rich's words ring true, especially the word *navigate*. When I talk to each of you, I become reflective on that ability that we all share.

I am now beginning my fourth year as our class correspondent. You all make it easy, as I simply coordinate all this news and put it together for the rest of the Bicentennial Class to see, in what I hope is an enjoyable and interesting read. Each column creates a really nice afternoon for me to sit and enjoy the memories of what we were, where we are and where we will be.

Rich, I do like that word — *navigate*!

Thanks for being great classmates and alumni. I look forward to hearing from and seeing you all in the near future. Try to get back to NYC for Homecoming (Saturday, October 20), which will be Columbia vs. Dartmouth. The day will kick off with a barbecue lunch. You will get information by all forms of mail later in the year. And keep those updates comin'!

1977

David Gorman
111 Regal Dr.
DeKalb, IL 60115
dgorman@niu.edu

Time for some catching up and sorting out. I was dismayed to discover a note sent more than a year ago; it was from **Marc Groz.** He writes (wrote!) from Stamford, Conn., and catches us up on a few things: "While I have spent most of my career in the investment management business, focused on the nexus of quantitative finance and information technology, I have, in recent years, been more and more drawn toward inventing socially useful financial instruments and related technologies. A decade's worth of R&D yielded six patents and now, at long last, comes the real fun. Yes, at 60 years of age, I am doing a start-up!"

Let me offer a very belated good luck with that!

Aside from the mistiming of this submission, this information might also be misplaced. He continues, "I entered CC as a John Jay Scholar with the Class of '77, graduating in '79 with a dual major in mathematics and psychology (my transcript says 'Math Psycho,' but they assure me this is only because of space limitations!)." [Editor's note: The alumni database lists him as CC'79.]

Well, I'm more than happy to count Marc among us, as I am with **Lenny Glynn,** who offers a near-epic tale of his quest for a B.A. Lenny writes, "As it happens, I find myself in the Class of 1977 by accident. I should have graduated in 1971, having entered the College in fall 1967 — just in time to have the school blow up on me in freshman year. In 1969 I took a one-semester medical leave and in spring 1972, when I was finishing, I discovered that I had fallen short by three credits and couldn't claim my degree. By then I was working full-time at *Time* magazine, so I just let things drift, before finally coming back to Columbia in 1977 to take a single four-point course, apply again for my degree — and graduate."

Welcome home, Odysseus.

Lenny, who is public policy director at Putnam Investments, adds that he likes to tell people, "My college days at Columbia were the happiest 10 years of my life," and that "being in the Class of 1977 makes me feel much younger (or at least it used to …)."

Same here, too, actually. I teach college and these days usually find myself telling students how long ago I was sitting where they are. I am a lot more impressed by this than they seem to be.

1978

Matthew Nemerson
35 Huntington St.
New Haven, CT 06511
matthewnemerson@gmail.com

We finished our 40th reunion in June but this column was written in early April, so we have a bit of a time warp going with *CCT*. I'm assuming we had a great time and I hope you are looking forward to hearing more in a few months.

Don Endrizzi PS'82 is creating a medical dynasty of sorts in Portland, Maine. He writes, "After finishing medical school and residency at Columbia, I have been a practicing orthopedic surgeon in Portland for the last 30 years. For the last year I have been chief of the division of orthopedics at Maine Medical Center. My wife, Peggy Pennoyer, is an allergist in private practice. We have three children, Julie PS'13, Doug and Mark. Julie kept our Columbia connection intact.

"To me, Columbia seemed like an oasis in the turmoil of mid-'70s New York. I remain grateful for the Core Curriculum, and my experience and friends on the Columbia crew team, and I remain proud to say I attended Columbia."

Daniel McCorkle also has daughters who followed in their dad's footprints. "Forty years! Following grad school at UW in Seattle, 'Old economy Dan' spent the past 30 years as a researcher and educator at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. This spring my younger daughter graduated from Barnard; her older sister graduated from there three years ago."

Another classmate we have followed over the years who has a light blue daughter is **Paul Phillips** GSAS'80: "I've had a wonderful first year on the faculty of Stanford as the Gretchen B. Kimball Director of Orchestral Studies and Associate Professor of Music. My wife, Kathryne Jennings, also joined the Stanford faculty as lecturer in music, teaching voice in the music and theater departments. Our older daughter, Joanna '12, is a film and television editor based in Los Angeles, while our younger daughter, Alanna, is enjoying her freshman year at the University of Vermont."

Tom Mariam is rarely a man of few words, but these days he's saving most of them for the folks that legal guys charge $1,000 an hour for the written word. "I am very excited to announce that I will become the firm-wide head of communications for Jones Day, starting in April," he writes.

Even in New Haven we know they are big-time, big-city counselors — congratulations, Tom!

Chuck Callan, our financier on the Hudson, decided to try a new sort of minimalism in the column, albeit after sending many entries to your humble scribe over the decades. Suffice it to say Chuck is now into "yoga," found New York "gritty" in the 1970s and found "his kids" the thing that most changed his life. For the next column we may seek relief in haiku.

From Ridgewood, N.J., and the Suburban Nephrology Group, **Kevin Vitting** notes that he has been keeping tabs on a general rounds-worth of classmate docs. He writes, "Heard from **Kevin Olsen** (cardiologist in Pennsylvania), **Peter Szeibel** (psychiatrist in Iowa) and **Warren Chin** (family physician in New Hampshire). My major personal transformative events were the founding of my medical practice (1991) and my marriage (1993); world events that caught me off guard include 9-11 and the rise of Donald Trump."

Kevin agrees with Chuck on how we thought of New York in the 1970s: "I recall the 'gritty' environment before Morningside Heights became gentrified and NYC emerged from the ennui of its 'Drop Dead' status in the 1970s — and I realize that CC has now become such a desirable college destination that I most likely would not get in if I were applying today!"

I'm convinced we all would have gotten in these days, but we would have had to work a lot harder in high school.

Steve Bargonetti, our man on Broadway, updates with: "I'm working on the musical *Lawdy Miss Clawdy,* about the life of singer Lloyd Price ('Mr. Personality'). Many people are not aware that not only did Lloyd discover Little Richard, but he also broke ground with his first hit ('Lawdy Miss Clawdy'), the first radio-friendly R&B song in the early '50s that had whites and blacks in America dancing together — civil rights through music! I'm also lead guitarist for *The Cher Show,* which will be in Chicago at The Oriental Theatre this summer and will come to Broadway in the fall.

"My life changing event was playing music at the Furnald Folk Festival — after that, I knew I wanted to be a full-time musician!"

Kevin Powell gives us an overview of 40 years in a flash from LaGrange, N.Y.: "I left Columbia with my geology B.A. and went to work looking for oil in Saudi Arabia. We found a lot of it! I then changed careers to IT in 1984 and I worked at the New York Fed for 10 years. Around this time I managed to finish my first New York City Marathon. Then it was on to work in Basel, Switzerland, at the Bank for International Settlements. Finally, I worked at Barclays back in New York for 14 years and now, retired! Along the way my marriage to Sandra Huer in 1993 has taught me compassion, caring and generosity."

Terrence O'Connor updates us: "As of this year, I have worked in the financial services industry for 40 years. Married for 28 years to Kathryn, with three kids: John (Lehigh '14), Terrence (Colby '16), and Claire (Franklin & Marshall '20). Friends from Columbia include **Paul McAuliffe, Marty Cicco** and **Jeff Combs.** How would I describe the Columbia of our era? Small, regional, all-male college in a huge university in a gritty urban environment."

There's that word "gritty" again!

Joseph Schachner, "My older daughter, Adena Schachner, is an associate professor of psychology at UCSD. She has our only granddaughter, now 19 months old and super cute! One of my biggest surprises is the lack of influence that parents actually have over their children, especially once they are teenagers!

"At work, when the manager of my group retired, they made me an offer I couldn't refuse: 'Become the manager of your group or work under some new hire.' So now I am the group manager. Fortunately, they are good people and we all know one another already. It is working out well.

"My main memory of Columbia is that it was not a supportive environment that wanted every student to succeed. It was up to the student to succeed … or not."

Alfred Feliu LAW'81 has a company aptly named Feliu Neutral Services. "I am an employment lawyer who serves principally as a neutral, e.g., arbitrator, mediator, investigator. I have been married for more than 30 years. My wife and I met at the Law School and we live in New Rochelle. Our three kids have all graduated from college and are, thankfully, employed, two in NYC and one in Boston. Life is good."

Ian Silverman writes, "My beloved wife, Beth, and I will soon celebrate 35 years together. We have two grown sons, Marc and Alan, on an earnest journey of identity and career. I have been a pulpit rabbi for 30 years and it continues to both gratify and challenge me. My post in East Northport on Long Island is now 15 years and running. Columbia in my memory was a source of rigorous study and a thorough introduction to Western Civilization and Humanities.

"For me, a life-changing event was the death of my father at a young age, just after I was married. It was a painful chapter for our family but it helped shape my choices career-wise and expanded my thinking in terms of life goals and priorities."

Thank you all for your support and contributions during the past 40 years, and I look forward to another quarter-century or so of keeping tabs on you guys. Oh, don't forget to send money to Columbia if you can.

1979

Robert Klapper
8737 Beverly Blvd., Ste 303
Los Angeles, CA 90048
robertklappermd@aol.com

News from **Neville Alleyne:** "We reside in La Jolla, Calif., with our children, ages 21, 20 and 17. The two boys are at the College — a junior and a sophomore. One is studying business/economics and the other is pre-med. Chris '19 is 21 and playing football — he was the first recruit of Coach Al Bagnoli. He has had an amazing three years as a Lion. My daughter is a junior at The Bishops H.S. and was looking at colleges on the East Coast. We hope it will turn out to be a hat trick and that she will attend Columbia as well.

"My practice is now completely robotic spine and we were the pioneers for the Mazor Renaissance Robot. Go Lions!"

In 2004, **Henry R. Jost** retired from owning a mortgage company in the Washington, D.C., area. He now lives in Deerfield Beach, Fla.

Fernando Koatz is "still living in Forest Hills, married for more than 28 years (to the same woman, who is an assistant principal in a New York public elementary school) and continues with my own law firm in New York City. Neither of my two sons matriculated at Columbia or wanted to be lawyers. I see several Columbia grads, mostly in New York, and I stay in touch with others outside of NYC via Facebook, LinkedIn and so on."

Ralph Keen is dean of the Honors College at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he is also professor of history. "I have fond memories of Dean Peter Pouncey, who became my advisor in the classics department and who always tried to assure me that I was doing better than I thought I was. That encouragement was important to me then and I try to be supportive of my students for the same reason. Roger Bagnall, whose work habits I've never been able to match, and Dean Carl Hovde '50, whose kindness and wisdom we rarely find in the academy these days, stand out as mentors whose impact on me has endured. Best wishes."

Xavier Huguet has "retired from my post at the European Commission on March 1, after 30 years. I now split my time between Brussels and my hometown of Barcelona with my wife, Nadine. I also plan to come to the United States more often, where my youngest son, Nick, lives — he attends the University of Vermont."

Bill Lee writes, "I am the senior partner at Scarsdale Pediatric Associates; my wife is now retired; our daughter married in 2016 and is living out of New York.

"I am still a fan of Suzanne Vega BC'81 (thank you, Furnald folkfest). I take care of several Columbia students. It is great bonding with them about Contemporary Civilization and Literature Humanities. Thank goodness the reading list is more diverse now. I keep in touch with Dr. **Joel Landzberg** and Dr. **Richard Caselli.** They are practicing cardiology and neurology, respectively. In addition, please extend congratulations to father/son duo Fred Balzac '80 and son Sam '17 for Sam's graduation last year. It is great to have Columbia span the generations."

Robert Kinoian DM'91 considers himself a New Yorker, but has been displaced into the suburbs of Bergen County, N.J., for quite a while. After graduation, Robert performed and taught classical guitar. He has performed at Carnegie Hall on multiple occasions, at New York City's The Town Hall and at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, among other notable stages. He studied with all the great classical guitarists of the 20th century, including Maestro Andrés Segovia.

He married Mary Ann Halajian in 1985 after she received a master's in nursing administration. After deciding that the life of a performing musician might not be compatible with the family life he wanted, Robert returned to school to pursue a degree in dentistry. Graduating first in his dental school class, he returned to the Dental School to attain a specialty certificate in orthodontics.

He has been an orthodontist since 1991, making beautiful smiles in a home office in Paramus, N.J., since 1998. Robert is since widowed but has a daughter who has a master's in English education and works at the Tenafly, N.J., middle school.

Robert has continued his connections to Columbia by being on the

Dr. George Yancopoulos '80 and Regeneron Pharmaceuticals are sponsoring the Science Talent Search, the most prestigious science and math competition for high school seniors.

Board of Directors for the Columbia University Armenian Center for more than a decade. He still plays classical guitar and enjoys concerts, museums and many arts events in New York City.

Robert C. Klapper: This column's Columbia memory comes from visiting the grocery, better known as Trader Joe's. The particular store I visited forced me to go in between tiny aisles while looking for the 1-pound block of Belgian chocolate that I craved. You might think this reminds me of a visit to Mama Joy's or TaKome. But actually, this visit to the grocery gave me a flashback to our senior year and the bowels of the dorm in which I was lucky to spend my fourth year at the College. That dorm was none other than Furnald Hall.

When we were at the College, Furnald Hall was housing for seniors only. It was the prize you gave yourself for surviving three years of torture. You might not know this, but that is no longer the case — the powers-that-be at the College have turned it into a freshmen-only dorm. As we say on Twitter, "SMH" (shaking my head).

In 1979, the world was changing so fast (even before Steve Jobs rocked our universe). *Saturday Night Live* and ESPN were in their infancy, a long way from becoming the institutions now burned in our memories; but for me, that year was about learning of the power of the student body at Columbia through its creation of the Furnald Grocery Co-Op. I hope some of you can enlighten me further by emailing me the real backstory to the co-op in the basement of Furnald; but from my perspective, it was a groundbreaking experiment whose story has stayed with me 40 years later.

Buying groceries under a co-op business plan that directly competed with the University's establishments (as well as the outrageous prices from the merchants across the street) was a transcendent revelation for me — to see that the employees and owners were classmates, making this impossible dream a reality. Wiggling through the geometrically impossible aisles to pack the maximum amount of product into a tiny space is the memory elicited by my visit to Trader Joe's, but its attempt to make you feel like you are obtaining both an exotic item and a bargain is but an illusion compared to the reality that was the Furnald Grocery Co-Op.

I still find it so interesting how much we learned during those four years of captivity that came from outside the classroom. The Furnald Grocery and its principle remain one of the most powerful lessons I've learned.

Roar, Lion, roar!

1980

Michael C. Brown
London Terrace Towers
410 W. 24th St., Apt. 18F
New York, NY 10011
mcbcu80@yahoo.com

I received a nice note from Professor **Jeff Field** regarding the Super Bowl of Science, which was held in March in Washington, D.C.

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals and Dr. **George Yancopoulos** GSAS'86, PS'87 are sponsoring the Science Talent Search, which is the oldest and most prestigious science and math competition for high school seniors. A total of $1.8 million was awarded to extraordinary students to further their education and research. Truly a worthy cause and great night for the students.

Pat DeSouza stopped by my office recently. He is chairman of Water Intelligence, an environmental services and technology company focused on detecting, finding and remediating water leaks. An interesting business with plenty of opportunities.

Drop me a line at mcbcu80@yahoo.com, and have a nice summer.



Left to right, Mike Brown '80, Shawn FitzGerald '80 and Eric Blattman '80 celebrated their 60th birthdays in Palm Beach, Fla.

1981

Kevin Fay
8300 Private Ln.
Annadale, VA 22003
kfay0516@gmail.com

I recently heard from **John Luisi,** who apparently has one of the choicest office locations in NYC. John is the assistant commissioner at the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation, so he goes to work in Central Park (the Arsenal at Fifth Avenue and 64th Street). From his office on the third floor, he is able to hear tunes emanating from the George Delacorte [Class of 1913] clock and check out the thrice-daily sea lion trainings.

Sounds idyllic! As someone who moved away from the city a long time ago, the first thing you notice is the noise, so to work in Central Park and actually hear music and animals — wow. John points out that venturing into Central Park during our days at Columbia was not exactly "forbidden," but it was strongly discouraged.

John and his wife, Eileen, have a son, Alex, who is entering a Ph.D. program in Norway focused on matching supply and demand of renewable and clean energy on the grid. The Ph.D. program is located in Trondheim, the fjord region of Norway, which they plan to visit (often) during Alex's studies.

I hope our class had a productive spring and a summer vacation (or two) to look forward to. Time permitting, please drop me a line so I can update the class on your whereabouts. Email me at kfay0516@gmail.com!

1982

Andrew Weisman
81 S. Garfield St.
Denver, CO 80209
ColumbiaCollege82@gmail.com

Lots of amazing news, so let's get started! Checking in first is the good doctor **David Adelson** PS'86, director of the Barrow Neurological Institute at Phoenix Children's Hospital, the Diane and Bruce Halle Endowed Chair in Pediatric Neurosciences and chief of pediatric neurosurgery.

Nine years ago David was recruited to Phoenix Children's Hospital to develop a children's neuroscience institute. From modest beginnings, the institute has had wonderful growth; there are now more than 85 clinicians, 50 research personnel and soon to be six research labs, a clinical research group, data center and biorepository, three residencies and five fellowships.

What a valuable accomplishment! Huzzah!

Next is **Jim Walton Jr.**, who says: "Since graduation, I've been a producer and director in sports television at ABC Sports, ESPN, the PGA Tour and NBC Sports, where I have worked on every Olympic Games since Athens in 2004. I own a small production company that specializes in the golf industry.

"I am married with two children and live in Peapack, N.J. My daughter, Bella, is at Tulane in the Class of 2019 and my son, Pito, recently committed to Princeton to play ice hockey. If only Columbia had a team!"

To put this in perspective, the last time I attended a Princeton hockey game I noticed that seven team members had already been drafted by NHL teams. Clearly, Pito is one hell of an athlete!

Next comes the awardee of my first annual prize for journalistic excellence, **John Rofe:** "First, sorry for not writing in almost 36 years. I'd say something like, the dogs ate my smartphone, but Buster and Biggy died long before I got my first iPhone. Now I have three daughters, 9, 7 and 5, and they do command a lot of my phone's attention, but still.

"Thirty-six years! Why so long? And not just for me but for so many of my classmates? I put it on the era we grew up in, in the wake of the '60s and its opposition to social norms and formality in general.

"I took a major step back from my college days after my close friend, **Eddie Brown,** was killed on graduation night. I've had contact with few classmates since Eddie's funeral. I ran into **Michael Waldman** at the 1988 Democratic convention, which I covered for some New Jersey newspapers; and I stayed with **Will Korn** outside of Boston in 2007 after watching the Red Sox win a playoff game.

"I was in touch with a third, **Mike Lamble,** on LinkedIn. I also see Tom Shin '84 whenever I get to Korea (or he to Paris) and Fred Coles '85 whenever I'm in New York. I've seen Chris Christophorou '81 a couple times, and Eileen Noonan SEAS'82. And another former roommate (after Will), **Bill Gallagher,** and his wife, Maura, three times.

"I literally ran into Doug Lavin '83 while we were jogging in opposite directions around the Central Park Reservoir, but I never knew him at Columbia.

"Unless I'm having a senior moment and forgetting someone, that's it. I wish it was more. But I've followed this space closely, always looking for a tidbit on someone I knew. So here is my tidbit, to make up for lost time.

"After graduation, I got my first job in journalism thanks to Al Greenberg SEAS'49 at *Skiing Magazine,* who picked me — who had never put on a pair of skis — as an intern over another candidate from Princeton, and my first apartment thanks to Tom and Eileen. We lived together on 115th and Amsterdam for eight months.

"Three years later, I got fired at *Skiing* by an editor who did not go to Columbia and thought I was too aggressive with his copy. I had just edited a report he wrote on new skis and left it on his desk with corrections. 'You should be at a newspaper,' he told me. 'You shouldn't,' I said back. I was gone the next day.

"In quick succession I worked for the *Queens Tribune* in Flushing, helping to cover Donald Manes and the New York corruption scandals in 1986; the *Hudson Dispatch,* in Union City, which made New York politics look pristine; and the *Passaic Herald News,* which sent me to the State House in Trenton, N.J.

"Trenton might as well have been Boise, so I moved to Los Angeles, got a job with the *Daily News,* then *Copley News,* covered Rodney King, the riots, the 1994 earthquake, and O.J., got married, got divorced, had two dogs, two houses and, of course, two cars. But I did not have any work done, if you know what I mean.

"The O.J. case soured me on newspapers — we were chasing the *National Enquirer* for scoops — so I took a job with a Newhouse start-up called the *Sports Business Journal* (I was hired by John Genzale JRN'75).

"Five years and two tries later, I finally convinced *The New York Times* to hire me as a copy editor and was back in New York in 2003. My parents were happy, and I was happy not to have to drive anywhere. That lasted two and a half months. *The Times* sent me to Paris. They needed a French speaker to help out at the *International Herald Tribune,* and I had mentioned during my interview that I'd go there if they really, really, really wanted me to. I've been here ever since.

"It's a great thing to change your center of gravity. You see the world from a different angle. You open up to new things. You eat well.

"I was a much better person when I married again, and if you did the math you know I'm an old dad. But the girls are a blast, and since the *Times* closed its international editorial offices in Paris in 2016, I've been with them full time as I do some freelance editing, teach English to adults and rehab our old apartment so we can rent it to visitors (any interest?).

"I would tell you about my wife, but the space is not big enough to do her justice. I'll just say she works full time as communications director at a medtech start-up while doing an executive M.B.A. at the top business school in Europe and helping to take care of the kids. She's pretty amazing. She did not go to Columbia. She's Canadian.

"Most importantly, everyone is in great health, including my 85-year-old mom and my wife's parents, and our brothers and sisters and their families. And we all love being around one another whenever we can bridge the three continents that divide us. So there you have it. I hope it was worth the wait. Promise I won't be another 36 years."

Fantastic note! Thanks, John!

Now let's hear from **Evan Charkes:** "My daughter Ella BC'20 is loving her time at Barnard. My wife, Juli BC'88, is an alum, as well. My twin sons, Will and Julian, are sophomores at Dobbs Ferry H.S.

"I am an attorney for Bank of America/Merrill Lynch based in Midtown and recently started teaching securities regulation as an adjunct professor at Pace Law School. I also was elected vice-chair of FINRA's National Adjudicatory Council.

"As a long-suffering Philadelphia Eagles fan, winning the Super Bowl has made life immeasurably better. I suppose there really are unicorns."

Stephen "Sully" Sullivan GSAS'13 writes, "I'm teaching 'HIST3535: History of the City of New York' for the fifth consecutive summer (I still can't believe they pay me to walk around the city with undergrads from all over the country and the world, point at buildings and tell stories ...). Anyone from the Class of 1982 who would like to tag along on one of our 'three-hour tours' (no *Minnow,* no Gilligan, no shipwreck) is welcome."

A great update from **David Shine:** "In early April, **David Fishman, Ed Hernstadt, Evan Hollander** and **David Shine** convened for a long weekend in the land of Locke and Hobbes. Having had enough of English Enlightenment philosophy in CC, we were not there to follow the Enlightenment trail, but instead to visit **Larry Sacks SEAS'82.**

"Larry has lived in London for the past 10 years working for financial institutions in the risk management area. Life for Larry in London seems to be anything but solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short. Instead, Larry lives in a lovely country home with a proper English garden with his wife, Kay; son, Ben; and dog, Snoopy.

"We visited some museums, saw the Churchill War Rooms and the playing fields of Eton (where we found no evidence of any battles being won) and duly took in St. Paul's and Westminster. But mostly we did what we did best as Columbia students — ate, drank beer, laughed and talked about women (sometimes even our wives), sports and books. So although the waistlines are thicker, the hair thinner and the life scars a bit deeper, much really hasn't changed."

Finally, I rate the following submission as one of the greatest ever! You'll see why.



On February 10, some of the 1978 residents of Carman Hall held a reunion in Brooklyn, N.Y. In attendance were Ed Gelles '82, Nathan Soule '84, Mark Brennan '82, Ken Gruber '82, Scott Simpson '82, Dave Zufall SEAS'82, George Mostoller '82, Steve Peterson, Rajan Sekaran '82, Jackson Zimmerman '82, Keun Ha Zimmerman, Daniel Schwarz '82, Martin Johnson '82, Jose Sanabria '82, Celeste Sanabria and John Swen '82.

Submit Your Photo

CCT welcomes Class Notes photos that feature at least two College alumni. Click "Contact Us" at **college.columbia.edu/cct.**

John Swen writes: "The 40th anniversary of the Carman Hall 1978 freshman year took place on February 10 in Brooklyn, and included **Ed Gelles,** Nathan Soule '84, **Mark Brennan, Ken Gruber, Scott Simpson, Dave Zufall SEAS'82, George Mostoller,** Steve Peterson, **Rajan Sekaran, Jackson Zimmerman,** Keun Ha Zimmerman, **Daniel Schwarz, Martin Johnson,** Kathy Simpson, **Jose Sanabria,** Celeste Sanabria and **John Swen. Lee Goldstein** was a late scratch due to the horrible flu running around. Classmates came from Toronto (Ken, I put you first!), Florida, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Boston and Rhode Island. We even tempted classmates to come to Brooklyn all the way from Manhattan.

"We had a terrific time catching up, enjoying excellent food prepared by the group (especially the amazing pulled pork from Steve and the incredible beer and cheese from Martin), and sharing our successes (many) and failures (enough). Political conversation was in blessedly short supply, although there was one brave soul who gamely defended He Whom Shall Not Be Named. Mostly we talked about our families. There was universal agreement that our kids are all smarter, nicer and more accomplished than we were — even if some of them struggle to be admitted to schools like Columbia. There was interesting and honest discussion of marriage and divorce, the joys and occasional sorrow of raising children, the unmitigated joy of having grandchildren, and some fascinating (touring rock 'n' roll band leader) and some boring (fly fishing) hobbies.

"As a conversation starter, we printed the CC reading list for 2017–18 and discussed how it compared to the books we remembered reading. Everyone approved of the additions of the Koran and other modern texts. Nearly everyone endorsed the idea of the course these 40 years later, including some of us who believe it played an important role in our careers. Those of us from less sophisticated backgrounds particularly appreciated Art Humanities and Music Humanities, which opened up a lifetime of appreciation of music and art. Candidates for deletion from the Core were remarkably few; Kant and Hume were the only two mentioned more than once.

"If anyone else is tempted to host an evening of classmates, we encourage you to do so; we all enjoyed it very much. In fact, we look forward to reprising our dinner. If anyone has contact information for **Geoff Cohen** or Dave Yee '83, we are hoping they can join us, along with **Lee Goldstein,** for our next gathering.

"Also, to potential future hosts: Make sure your neighbors are prepared for late-night departures (4 a.m.). One thing that hasn't changed for Carman Hall 2nd floor freshmen of 1978: They go hard and they don't go home till late!"

Truly amazing! Hope you guys are enjoying all this news as much as I am!

1983

Roy Pomerantz
Babyking/Petking
182-20 Liberty Ave.
Jamaica, NY 11412
bkroy@msn.com

My boys (Ricky, 10; David, 13) and I attended every Columbia home basketball game this season. We had an enjoyable pre-game V&T dinner with **Kevin Chapman,** Sharon Chapman BC'83 and their son, Ross '18. Ross plays the trombone for the CU Marching Band. He graduated as a music major and is heading to law school. **Mike McCarthy** was also at V&T and attended the game. We also had a pre-game V&T dinner with **David Rubel,** his wife, Julia, and their daughter, Abigail '19. David and Julia's son, Quentin, was accepted to CC last year but deferred so that he could take a gap year with AmeriCorps. Abigail plays the flute for the CU Marching Band. We enjoyed watching Columbia beat Princeton 85–60.

Martin Ottomanelli: "Thanks for the friendly prods for information. I always intend to reply and then never do, so this time I'm finally acting. Maybe it's because I'm planning to attend the 35th reunion (along with my wife, Sibylla), so I've been thinking about my years at Columbia more than usual.

"Here's an update of what's been going on over the last 35 years in a few sentences. We moved to Geneva, Ill. (a Chicago suburb), in 1993. I've been in commercial banking since graduation. While still in New York, I got an M.B.A. at Fordham at night while working at my first banking job out of college. I'm a regional credit officer in the middle market commercial banking division of Huntington Bank (headquartered in Columbus, Ohio). I work with several middle market lending teams in Illinois and Wisconsin and manage the credit risk for the related loan portfolio.

"Sibylla and I were married in 1983, so we're celebrating our 35th this year as well. We are planning a trip to Rome and The Vatican. We have two wonderful daughters. Grace-Marie graduated from the University of Illinois–Champaign with a major in community health and then went to graduate school at Midwestern. She is a physician's assistant and is with a practice that covers pediatrics to geriatrics. Sophia graduated from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. She double-majored in law, politics and society; and sociology. She works for a not-for-profit that assists the local AIDS and HIV+ population and their families with healthcare, counseling and housing. She is applying to graduate programs for a master's in public health. We are incredibly proud of our children.

"I stay in touch somewhat regularly with **John Bonomi, Rob Dell Angelo** and **Steven Reich** and we're hoping to see each other at reunion. All three are attorneys — not sure if that means anything. My siblings still reside in the greater NYC area and we've been back many times through the years. We look forward to each visit — there's only one NYC."

Alex Treitler: "I am a busy single dad living in St. Paul, Minn., since 2007. I have four children. My son, Oscar (29), lives in Stockholm with his wife and two young daughters. He is a professional violinist, and the primary in the Treitler Quartet. I also have three daughters who live with me in St. Paul: Ella (12), Ivy (11) and Lucia (6). I was until recently the organization director of spiritual care at Augustana Care in Minnesota and Colorado.

"Following a lifelong consideration of affiliation and identity, I formally completed my transition to Judaism. As part of this I have been researching and writing about the history of my Jewish Galician family and the scattered Jewish connections of my Swedish and Scottish-American family. I welcome contact from classmates who might similarly have embarked on considerations of ethnic and cultural identity and might have a newfound interest in family story and history. Beyond this I would describe a newfound passion by paraphrasing the Woody Allen line: 'Those who can't coach, coach basketball.' As I accompany my kids in their schooling, I think often with gratitude of the many excellent teachers I had at Columbia. Specifically I remember Peter Rudnytsky '73, who taught my section of Lit Hum, and Peter Boll, who taught my section of Contemporary Civilization. Both of them approached these topics with an intellectual rigor that I absorbed I can be reached at alex.treitler@gmail.com."

Victor Cha published an op-ed in *The New York Times* on March 9. It begins: "The announcement at the White House on Thursday evening that President Trump will meet the North Korean leader, Kim Jong-un, within two months raises more questions than it answers. While the unpredictability of a meeting between these two unconventional leaders provides unique opportunities to end the decades-old conflict, its failure could also push the two countries to the brink of war." Read the full piece at nyti.ms/2J6ntug.

Barry Rashkover: "I agree with the idea of honoring all of our departed classmates in the 35th reunion memorial service. One of those was **Peter Stevens,** who was a successful gastroenterologist."

On April 1 *The Wall Street Journal* published an article about the acceptance rates falling at Ivy League schools:

Brown: 7.2 percent, admitted 2,566 of 35,438

Columbia: 5.5 percent, admitted 2,214 of 40,203

Cornell: 10.39 percent admitted 5,288 of 51,328

Dartmouth: 8.7 percent, admitted 1,925 of 22,033

Harvard: 4.6 percent, admitted 1,962 of 42,749

Penn: 8.4 percent admitted 3,731 of 44,491

Princeton: 5.5 percent, admitted 1,941 of 35,370

Yale: 6.3 percent, admitted 2,229 of 35,306

Glad we applied when we did to CC!

Michael Schmidtberger '82 and his wife Margie Sung's daughter will start at Columbia in the fall.

I attended the John Jay Awards Dinner in early March and was extremely impressed by honoree Los Angeles Democrat Mayor Eric Garcetti '92, SIPA'93. He is a good friend of David Javdan '90. David and I are already discussing supporting Mayor Garcetti for the presidential election in 2020. **Ed Joyce** also attended the dinner and sat with me at a recent Columbia basketball game.

1984

Dennis Klainberg
Berklay Cargo Worldwide
14 Bond St., Ste 233
Great Neck, NY 11021
dennis@berklay.com

Happy summer, one and all! On the Klainberg front, my wife, Dana TC'89, an assistant registrar at Teachers College, and I are proud to report that daughter Sydney has graduated with honors from SUNY Geneseo and is aiming to pursue a Ph.D. in psychology. Daughter Emma, a SUNY Binghamton graduate, follows in her grandmother's (my mom, Dr. Marilyn Klainberg) and mother's footsteps as she studies at Teachers College en route to a degree in higher education. Ever-ambitious, she also works at several Columbia jobs, including helping coordinate SHAPE (Summer High School Academic Program for Engineers), a new program for high school students interested in engineering. First son Adam has been working in the accounting department of our family business since graduating from SUNY New Paltz, but as of this publication, will be working in the finance department of VIACOM as a junior analyst. And speaking of junior, that's Jacob, now a rising third-year at SUNY Purchase, where he aims to be our family's **Adam Belanoff** (screenwriter to the stars).

Mazel tov to dear friend, former neighbor and fellow Sachem **David Godfried** on the graduation of his son, Robert '18, from the College. Robert majored in sociology and is planning to work in city or local government, with a view toward either law or journalism school in a few years. One of David's favorite courses was a seminar in his last semester taught by one Professor Roger Lehecka '67, GSAS'74, aka our illustrious Dean of Students in the roaring '80s!

Howdy, **Robert Aaronson:** "Our oldest, Alexa, and her fiancé, Dan, are first-year medical students at the University of Arizona here in Tucson, where we have lived for more than 20 years. Our middle child, Natalie, is a sophomore at Washington University, studying design and writing, already organizing next year's sorority rush, and working as *The New York Times* campus representative there. Our youngest, Ian, is a senior in high school and was eagerly awaiting word from colleges. So we are soon to be empty-nesters.

"My wife, Bonnie, left law practice years ago, had a busy career in commercial real estate and has slowed down the last few years to pursue a bunch of hobbies and passions, including bag and purse making (maybe another career in the making?) and working with our local chapter of NOW, in hopes of someday passing the ERA!

"I'd like to be a professional road cyclist, but I'm way too old, far too slow and also busy as a doctor, practicing pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine. I teach and am a medical administrator. I'm a clinical professor at University of Arizona, Midwestern University and A.T. Still University, and have been busy for the last few years as the Arizona governor for the American College of Physicians. Columbia College was an incredibly important part of my young life and education."

Aloha, **Marsha Mount Eckert** BUS'90: "IT, coffee, B&B and baby: You might recall I was one of the first six women to receive a degree from CC (the graduation day *NY News* article: 'Columbia Fems Are Gems'). Highlights of my career include working at Bristol Myers, NYCDOT analytics, in management consulting and then IT consulting. Continuing my education, I got an M.B.A. (with honors) and I have earned more than a dozen Microsoft certifications, including MCSE, MCDBA and MCTS. In 2004 my husband and I built a coffee farm and a B&B on the Kona coast of Hawaii. It was a beautiful, peaceful setting, yet convenient to town and airport. We operated these for 14 years and have now put the property on the market. Our daughter was born in Hawaii and I was on her school's advisory board. We plan to return to California, to be closer to other family members. Through the years in Hawaii I continued IT and analytics work and will be looking for a full-time position in Southern California. Our B&B once hosted a wedding that included three Columbia grads: the officiant, the father of the bride and me."

Michael Feldman, clicking away quickly during tax season: "My daughter's YouTube channel, CloeCouture, has nearly 3.7 million subscribers. I am a certified financial planner."

Michael Plottel GSAPP'88, mojo rising! "I was recently elevated to fellowship level by the American Institute of Architects in recognition of my professional work as a public architect. It's an honor bestowed on roughly 2 percent of architects nationwide. Here is the capsule statement that summarizes the last 25-plus years of my public work: 'Michael Plottel leads public projects that repair and enrich the fabric of urban life. He continues to make significant contributions to the public architecture community by driving dialogue and research on civic engagement and practice.'

"Outside of that I'm enjoying empty-nester life with my wife, Daniella, occasionally getting in touch with old friends and planning our next trips overseas."

You stay classy, **Madhu Alagiri**! "I went to med school in Philadelphia and stayed for a surgical residency at Temple. Subsequently, I joined the surgical faculty at UC San Diego and am a professor there. I run both an active research and clinical practice. I am married with three kids. One is at Cornell, another is at the University of San Francisco. The youngest is a freshman in high school. Doing a little surfing and sailing and so far enjoying a nice quality of life with no major complaints."

Is that **Adam Dicker** sitting on Low Steps? He writes, "I'm visiting campus with my youngest child. I interviewed 20 candidates this year, and one gained admission. My son is a freshman after two years living in Israel."

Chris Nollet says the heart of rock 'n' roll is still beating: "I got to play in a Specials tribute band recently with Bill Gibson, the drummer for Huey Lewis and the News."

From **Ed Hewitt:** "I was more or less the first women's crew coach at Columbia (1984–93), and my squeeze of 30 years, Lori Dauphiny, got her coaching start there before being hired at Princeton in 1988; she became the head coach at Princeton in 1997 and, along with the Columbia coaches, has sustained the relationship between the two programs since. The idea for a cup race came from former women's coach Scott Ramsey and, when my and Lori's friend James Hill Jr. of Philadelphia learned about the idea, he searched for and found a cup.

"The cup was made sometime between 1787 and 1807 in London during the reign of George III and was later presented as a prize for a boat race in Newport, R.I., in 1927, about which there is an inscription inside the cup. It goes to the winner of the annual Columbia-Princeton women's varsity eight race. To get a sense of it, it is 18 inches tall and weighs 125 oz. without the base."

And finally, if you didn't know it already, **Wayne P. Weddington III** has a lot to say … but not here! He reports, "I have a blog, W3. It was tough to be a dogged curmudgeon without writing it all down periodically! Find it at goo.gl/w1vuWD."

Start thinking about attending our 35th reunion next year!

1985

Jon White
16 South Ct.
Port Washington, NY 11050
jw@whitecoffee.com

"I'll be back on campus periodically in a minor, but official and, I hope, worthy capacity," writes **Thomas Vinciguerra** JRN'86, GSAS'90 from Garden City, N.Y. "I'm editing and writing the introduction to a Columbia University Press book of essays, tentatively titled *Keeping Speech Free,* a 75th anniversary celebration of the University Seminars.

"Drawing on professors and experts from within and outside of alma mater, the seminars are a series of high-level academic discussions, lectures and conferences. 'Human Rights,' 'Women and Society,' 'Neo-Confucian Studies,' 'Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience' and 'The Problem of Peace' are just some of the more than 90 distinct offerings.

I expect the intellectual workout of a lifetime.

"Best of all, it was our very own dean, Bob Pollack '61, the director of the seminars, who approached me for this project. Bob has further designated me a Visiting Scholar; the perks include full Butler borrowing privileges, a nifty line on my C.V. and my very own CU stationery.

"Lest you think I've become serious, I recently published pieces about such all-important topics as the literary legacy of Mickey Spillane (for *The Wall Street Journal*), the youthful beefcake photos of John Ashbery GSAS'50 (for *The New York Times*) and the 50th anniversary of the classic *Star Trek* episode 'The Trouble With Tribbles' (for *Vanity Fair*). Naturally, too, I'm still serving with maximum ego as Avatar of the Philolexian Society, going stronger than ever more than 30 years after I dusted it off."

In other news, **Michael Cho** and I caught up on the phone this spring. His oldest child recently graduated from high school and Mike is working on a health care platform that will be on the market in the coming months — more info to come.

On the home front, all three of my kids continue to do me proud; my oldest son, Isaac '14, has been promoted to a senior software engineer at *The New York Times* and was one of the key coders designing the app for the Olympics and other recent live events. My middle son, Noah, graduated from Duke this spring and has recently begun service in the Peace Corps in the Philippines (thank you **John Phelan** for your encouraging words about your experience many years ago). We look forward to visiting him in that part of the world many months hence. My youngest son, Josh, a rising junior at the University of Miami, continues to follow the broadcaster's dream and is spending the summer as one of the play-by-play broadcasters for the Orleans Firebirds, one of the teams in the Cape Cod baseball league (a summer destination for rising college players to be noticed by major league scouts). No less than Carlton Fisk, Frank Thomas and Nomar Garciaparra have played for the Firebirds, so we are looking forward to some time on the Cape under the lights with baseball and mini golf. My last trip to Orleans occurred during my days with the Kingsmen.

As for me, as part of the New York Choral Society, this spring I was blessed to sing the Bach B-minor mass at Carnegie Hall. It is such an amazing feeling to look out from that stage.

My recent Columbia activities have included a Mini-Core Class, a three-part review of many of the key excerpts from Contemporary Civilization. My preparation included rereads of Plato, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau and Mill. Many of the concepts came back from decades past, but re-reading these texts was harder than I imagined; the discussions among alumni, led by Professor John McWhorter, were very stimulating and reminded me of the power of these great ideas. I have done several of these classes over the years, so for those of you in the New York area, I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Congratulations to those CC'85ers with children accepted into the Class of 2022. For those who thought admission to the College was getting competitive, take heart, as we have moved into the uber hyper-competitive world. The Office of Undergraduate Admissions announced that it accepted 2,214 of the 40,203 students who applied. It is the largest applicant pool in Columbia's history, marking an 8 percent increase from last year, and creating an overall acceptance rate for the College and Columbia Engineering of 5.5 percent.

I recently attended my 30th Law School reunion; I caught up with several of our classmates who crossed over with me from one side of Amsterdam to the other, including **Sebastian Sperber** LAW'88, who practices with Cleary Gottlieb in London, focusing on international capital markets transactions and merger and acquisition transactions.

And speaking of reunions, mark your calendars — our 35th reunion is only 23 months away. No doubt some planning sessions will begin to rumble in the coming months, so please help us plan the festivities.

Keep those updates coming. Happy summer!

Wayne P. Weddington III '84 has a blog, W3: "It was tough to be a dogged curmudgeon without writing it all down!" Go online to goo.gl/w1vuWD.

1986

Everett Weinberger
50 W. 70th St., Apt. 3B
New York, NY 10023
everett6@gmail.com

Ever fantasize about spending a year studying whatever your heart desired at an outstanding university? **Goran Puljic** is living the dream, as he and his wife, Melinda, are spending 2018 studying at Stanford enrolled in the Distinguished Careers Institute program. He retired as a partner at Oak Hill Advisors in early 2016 and took on a senior adviser role at distressed debt fund Strategic Value Partners. Their oldest son, Nick SEAS'19, is studying computer science and working at Amazon this summer. Tucker, their youngest son, is studying culinary arts at Johnson & Wales College in Providence, R.I., and is a chef on Nantucket in the summer.

If you want to try a different career path, it's not too late, as we learned from **Rachel Schwartz:** "Several years ago, I went back to school to pursue a master's in art history. I had been a lawyer since about 2000 (and before that, a copy editor). But I majored in art history, so this wasn't quite out of left field. I've completed my coursework for a master's in art history/museum studies at the City College of New York (just a bit north of Columbia!) and am trying to write my thesis. I work part-time at the Frick Collection, a beautiful museum on the Upper East Side. I also run a lot. Through the years, I've completed nine marathons, including the NYC Marathon five times."

I ran into **Michael Lustig** while walking on my block. He says, "Since retiring from BlackRock I've been deeply involved in a number of start-ups (with a focus on 'impact investing') and nonprofits as my 'day job,' but I took on a different role this academic year: adjunct professor of finance at the NYU Stern School of Business. I lectured in a night class at the Business School for 13 years but stopped about five years ago. An opportunity arose to teach full-time students in an elective class at NYU, 'Debt Instruments and Markets,' and midway through my second semester of teaching there (with a section of undergrads and one of M.B.A.s) I'm not looking back! While spending time in the Village is fun, my daughter Helena BC'20 finished her sophomore year and I'm still involved (on a board level) with Columbia/Barnard Hillel, so I venture uptown fairly often. My other daughter, Julia, is a sophomore at SUNY Binghamton, so she doesn't get quite the same number of visits!"

Michael Purves brought us up to date: "Other than two years in West Philadelphia for business school, I have remained within a few subway stops of Hamilton Hall since graduating. For the vast majority of my career I have worked in various facets of Wall Street: as an investment banker advising clients on M&A and corporate finance, then as a portfolio manager at emerging market hedge funds. For the last six years I have been a macro and derivative strategist at Weeden & Co., a nearly century-old broker dealer serving institutional clients. It is a busy day trying to make sense of the endlessly shifting global markets, but you never get bored. My four children keep me on my toes (twins who are 16, a 7-year-old and a 4-year-old); indeed, raising four kids in NYC is an extreme sport. My wife, Lucia, is a cancer scientist from Spain, so the language requirement certainly paid long-lasting dividends."

Congratulations to **Michael Parent** on the sale of his company! "After an amazing, uninterrupted 23-year run — working with my partners to build our firm, Signal Hill, into a leading technology M&A investment bank — Signal Hill was recently purchased by Daiwa Securities Group, providing me the opportunity to move on to new adventures. More time for family, friends, charitable work and perhaps far-ranging travel top the priority list in the near term. I've always greatly valued our Columbia College education, and my appreciation for it grows every year."

J.D. Scrimgeour GSAS'87's most recent book, the poetry collection *Lifting the Turtle*, was published in November. He will teach poetry at Ginling College of Nanjing Normal University in Nanjing this summer.

In late 2017, **Bill Seligman** LAW'89 joined a group of his Los Angeles and New York-based colleagues from the boutique real estate law firm Cassin & Cassin in moving their practice to McGuireWoods. He is based in Century City, having moved to Los Angeles 15 years ago. Bill's practice focuses on representation of real estate lenders and debt investors in all debt products and asset classes, at all phases of the debt cycle from loan origination to workouts.

1987

Sarah A. Kass
PO Box 1006
New York, NY 10113
SarahAnn29uk@gmail.com

This month's column will necessarily be short but sweet. **Lloyd Lim** shared news about his latest book, *Business Tools, Not Platitudes: With Staff Training Modules*. He says it is the first of the many books he has written that he suspects will have more of a commercial appeal. If you check out lloydlimsolutions.com, you will see how prolific Lloyd has been in the fields of business and finance, including his blog posts.

I'm hoping that our columns will contain many more contributions, especially from those we have not heard from in a long while. This is your column. Without your input, we have nothing. Please consider submitting your updates to SarahAnn29uk@gmail.com!

1988

Eric Fusfield
1945 South George Mason Dr.
Arlington, VA 22204
eric@fusfield.com

I met **Jonathan Rosand** PS'94 during junior year abroad at Oxford, where we found ourselves floormates in University College housing. Jon wrote in before our 30th reunion, saying he was "looking forward to catching up with folks who really remember NYC in the '80s. I recalled fondly our time together in Oxford at Stavertonia when I visited a few years ago. The place looks pretty much the same, surprise, surprise.

"Since graduating from medical school I have been in Boston at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard, where I am chief of neurocritical care and emergency neurology and oversee a research program at MGH and the Broad Institute. We have established the Henry and Allison McCance Center for Brain Health, which is devoted to preventing brain disease and preserving brain function over the lifespan. My wife and two sons, 16 and 19, are healthy and thriving, for which I am thankful every day.

"My father, David Rosand '59, GSAS'65, longtime professor of art history at Columbia and a loyal and committed alumnus, died in 2014. Since then my family and I have devoted ourselves to ensuring that his contributions to alma mater continue to live on for future generations. With the generous collaboration of Dad's circle of friends, former students and faculty we established the David Rosand Professorship of Italian Renaissance Art History. On a larger scale, we are now raising funds to secure Casa Muraro, Columbia's home in Venice, Italy. Working with fellow devoted alums and art lovers has been a source of great fun and I look forward to talking about art history and Italy with anyone who shares these passions!"

Craig Blackmon writes that he and his wife, Tiffany McDermott BC'87, "continue to reside happily in beautiful — and officially super cool — Seattle. Tiffany has scaled her medical practice (ob/gyn) back to part time, giving her the chance to explore more of life's wonders. I continue to dabble in the real estate startup scene. My current iteration, Houses.Direct, markets homes directly to buyers, saving sellers tens of thousands of dollars in transaction costs."

I saw that former Lions football coach Jim Garrett, a celebrated if controversial figure during his one-season tenure in 1985, passed away this year. It brought back assorted memories, not only of covering the team's travails and his dramatic firing for the *Spectator* sport pages, but also of commiserating with classmates about the dark days of Columbia football. The Lions have moved on, I'm happy to say — second place in the Ivy League last season, and next year is looking good. To paraphrase one of the trustiest clichés from our *Spec* sports writing days, "What a difference 30 years make."

1989

Emily Miles Terry
45 Clarence St.
Brookline, MA 02446
emilymilesterry@me.com

A big thanks to **Kaivan Shakib**, who agreed to send a Class Notes write-up on the John Jay Awards Dinner when I was stuck in Boston and unable to join the celebration. Here's his report, which begins with a note on the snowstorm that forced the change in my (and a few others'!) plans. Kaivan writes, "As 'Deantini' pointed out, chances of snow greater than six inches in NYC in March is 0.67 percent, and the last time there was more than six inches of snow in NYC on March 7 was 1941. But struggling through was worth it so that we could honor the two members of the Class of '89 who were among this year's five honorees. We are all very proud of **Robert Rooney**, CEO of Morgan Stanley International Plc., head of Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and head of technology; and **Julie Jacobs Menin**, commissioner of the NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment. I had a chance to chat with Rob and his wife, Corinne, as well as Julie and her three sons.

"Supporting our honorees were **John Alex**, **Michael Barry**, Columbia College Alumni Association (CCAA) President **Michael Behringer** (who gave a rousing speech), University Trustee **Lisa Carnoy** (who gave a very rousing speech), **Jonathan Dwyer** (who still looks 22), **Matthew Engels**, **Jared Goldstein** (who surprisingly owns a tuxedo), Ken Hechtman (just checking that you are still reading this list), **Donna MacPhee**, **Steve Metalios** (who looks 25), **Jill Pollack**, **Kirk Ruddy**, **Frank Seminara**, **Bennie Seybold**, **David Winter** and **Raymond Yu.** If you're curious, Rob and Julie bring our total Class of '89 John Jay Award recipients to four; they join **Lisa Carnoy** and **Stephanie Falcone Bernik.** Let's hope the weather for next year's dinner is a little balmier and that we can add a few more members of our class to the distinguished list."

Of the evening, **Robert Rooney** says, "It was a privilege to be among such an impressive group of alumni and to share the stage with other members of the incomparable Class of '89: fellow honoree **Julie Jacobs Menin**, trustee **Lisa Carnoy** and CCAA President **Michael Behringer.** We had a great evening in the snow, seeing so many classmates and friends."

Though I couldn't make it to the John Jay Awards Dinner, I was able to attend the Columbia Alumni Association's "She Opened the Door" conference in February, the first University-wide women's conference. It was spectacular; in addition to hearing Columbia memories from Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg LAW'59, it was great to visit with **Donna MacPhee**, Teresa Saputo-Crerend '87 and **Danielle Maged**, all of whom were involved with organizing this truly remarkable event.

1990

Rachel Cowan Jacobs
youngrache@hotmail.com

It's always great to hear from **Ted Tsekerides.** He writes, "I turned 50 on January 19 and my wife, **Caroline Andersen**, set up a surprise by having a bunch of close friends from our Columbia days come to town. We had a great weekend hanging out on Long Island (I live in Cold Spring Harbor). Good for the soul. Ryan Womack '89, Mark Miller '89, George Caliendo '89, **Richard Weil** and **Javier Maldonado** attended. I'm at Weil Gotshal, a partner in the litigation department. Ryan is a research librarian at Rutgers. Mark is running a hedge fund in Chicago. George works for Bloomberg in San Francisco. Richard has his hands in a lot of things, but from what I can tell runs investments for a bunch of funds in Los Angeles. Javier is an attorney in San Antonio doing immigration and employment law."

Got a sweet tooth like me? **Erika Henik**'s Sweet on Vermont Artisan Confections was featured in *The New York Times'* Valentine's Day Gift Guide in February. Her career as a chocolatier started at Columbia,



Ted Tsekerides '90 had a great weekend in January celebrating his birthday with College friends. Standing, left to right: Ryan Womack '89, Mark Miller '89, George Caliendo '89 and Richard Weil '90. Seated, Javier Maldonado '90 and Tsekerides.

when she worked part-time for a small chocolate company based on West 110th Street (not Mondel!). One of her best customers in those days was Professor Jim Shenton '49. He was hooked after she gifted him with a box of chocolates at the end of a summer course, "The History of the City of New York"; the course featured weekly walking tours around the city (and inevitably ended at some eatery). Shenton became a lifelong customer, ordering not just for himself, but also for friends, family, colleagues like Professor Eric Foner '63, GSAS'69, and his CC class on the last day of the semester. Erika recalls **Josh Gillette**'s envy that he had to sit in the hallway outside Professor Shenton's office during office hours, while she could just stroll in with a box of truffles in hand. Nowadays, Erika's daughter (11) and son (8) educate their friends about the relative merits of dark versus milk chocolate and enthusiastically hand out samples during tastings and special events.

In the Spring column, I mentioned the creation of **Paul Greenberg** BUS'97's digital video firm, Butter Works. Now that it's been a while, he reports, "I have an excellent creative partner, and we've gotten good early traction with several new clients from media companies, brands and agencies. The goal is to be a full-service company providing business modeling, branded content, distribution, full production and so forth. Given the success I had with the digital studio I ran at A+E (a Facebook show with 50 million views per episode, a Snapchat show with 80 million views per episode, YouTube hits, lots of great branded content, etc.), it seems like a good time for me to make the move. More info is at butter.works."

Kudos to **Laura Marks** SIPA'96, who reported in March, "In addition to running the Louis and Nancy Hatch Dupree Foundation in support of an archive and resource center in Kabul and teaching U.S. citizenship classes to immigrant women at Women for Afghan Women, I co-chair the New York/New Jersey community group for the Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance, an organization that works to find a cure for and improve the lives of those living with tuberous sclerosis complex. TSC is a genetic disorder that causes tumors to form in various organs, primarily the brain, eyes, heart, kidneys, skin and lungs; it's also the leading genetic cause of both epilepsy and autism. This cause is especially meaningful to me because our son was diagnosed with TSC several years ago. He's fortunate to be relatively mildly affected and is doing well, but that's not the case for many people living with the disorder. In early March, I visited a dozen Washington, D.C., offices of United States representatives and senators from New York to ask them to sign our bipartisan letter requesting the continuation of funding in 2019 for the TSC Research Program (TSCRP) through the Department of Defense.

"Despite having a very short turnaround time, our team of volunteers managed to get 200 members of the House to sign our letter — a record number for us! (The Senate process is pending as of this writing.) We anticipate that this support will translate into a multimillion dollar allocation in the FY19 Omnibus Spending Bill to the TSCRP, as it has for more than a decade. Some of the exciting research under way through the TSCRP are a clinical trial to improve social skills in infants with TSC before they develop autism and a study that's looking at TSC cerebellar cells that might help explain how autism spectrum disorder develops at the molecular level. We call TSC a linchpin disease because TSC research has a high potential to lead to discoveries and treatments for other conditions such as cancer, autism, epilepsy, diabetes and traumatic brain injury, to name a few." For more information, visit tsalliance.org.

I heard from **Chris Young** with sad news: "My freshman roommate (Carman 10) and lifelong friend, John Soltis, passed away in his sleep on March 7, 2018, at the ridiculously young age of 49, for reasons not yet understood. Classmates will remember him as the crazy California kid who wore shorts in winter '86–'87, when multiple blizzards pummeled campus. John, the valedictorian of his high school class in Ontario, Calif., was one of the smartest people I've ever known, and our close friendship throughout life was a privilege. His quick wit, sardonic sense of humor and unique outlook on life always kept me in stitches. As a professional (which he insisted was 'more like a hobby that paid the rent'), he was an award-winning illustrator within the Hollywood advertising community — there is no doubt you all have seen his artwork on movie posters and billboards worldwide. Friends in the industry put together a gallery of his life's work in memoriam on April 8 at The Mark in Los Angeles.

"Beyond his cerebral talents, John was also an outstanding athlete. After playing football freshman year at Columbia as one of the team's several talented kickers, he transferred back to the West Coast, where he went on to play for UCLA varsity football for three years, anchored by future NFL Hall of Fame quarterback Troy Aikman. John's sudden departure is devastating to those who knew him, and to say that he will be sorely missed is a gross understatement of the new reality that we are now forced to endure. Rest in peace, dear old friend. For those so inclined, a GoFundMe memorial fund has been put together to support his family and provide scholarships in his name: gofundme.com/john-soltis-memorial-fund."

1991

Margie Kim
margiekimkim@hotmail.com

I had a lovely conversation with **Alison Toledo White**, who is an attorney with the SEC and lives in McLean, Va., with her husband and two children. Alison was in NYC recently and took her family to campus so she could show them around. She was able to get into Carman and said it looked exactly the same as when we lived there — cinderblocks and all. Apparently, Columbia is in the process of renovating Carman, but the floor she was on hadn't changed a bit since 1987!

David Wacks lives in Eugene, Ore., with his wife, Katharine Gallagher, and their sons Eitan (12) and Zev (10). David is professor of Spanish at the University of Oregon (wacks@uoregon.edu). His new book, *Medieval Iberian Crusade Fiction*, is under contracts. David, Katherine and their sons spent 2016–17 living in Seville, Spain.

Chris Front GSAS'93 lives in St. Louis, where he's been working at John Burroughs School, an independent school, for 16 years. Last summer he became the school's director of academics, after five years as principal of grades 11 and 12. Chris now oversees the curriculum and the faculty. Other than seeing **Justin Kerber** at a random kids' soccer game once in a blue moon, he relies on Facebook to connect with classmates.

Jimmy Windsor writes: "I work at the University of Iowa and am the director of pediatric cardiac anesthesia. I am married and have two daughters: the first is 19 and is attending NYU and the second is 14 and in eighth grade.

And, finally, I'm happy to report that **Annie Giarranto Della Pietra**'s daughter, Kate, and **Dana Fenlon-Wu**'s daughter, Hannah, were both accepted at Columbia and will be members of the Class of 2022! Congrats to Kate and Hannah!

This was a short update — for those who haven't sent news recently, please let me know how you're doing using the email address at the top of the column. Hope you all have a fun summer! Until next time, cheers!

1992

Olivier Knox
olivier.knox@gmail.com

Los Angeles Mayor **Eric Garcetti** (and four distinguished alums from other classes) got the honors at the 40th annual John Jay Awards Dinner on March 7. I was unable to attend the celebration, which raises money for the John Jay National Scholars Program, but photos posted to

Facebook (facebook.com/alumnicc) suggest a packed house at Cipriani 42nd Street. The Dinner Committee included **Wah Chen, Erik Feig, Peter Hatch** and **Hilary Hatch.**

Thanks to Peter, I can report that attendees included **Jason Schwartz, Negar Ahkami, Farnaz Vossoughian, Ben Lawsky, Maria Ramirez Jurgens, Brian Farran, Nicholas Diamand, Karl Cole-Frieman** and **John Marciano.** Two of Eric's first-year roommates — **Rich Bernard** and **Jared Clark** — also attended. The happy event also drew Dae Levine BC'92, Josh Levy '94, Hillary Semel BC'92 and Amy Sananman BC'92. Reunion co-chair **Erin Zyko Hussein,** who works in development for CC, attended as staff.

The other honorees were Sara Just '88, Julie Jacobs Menin '89, Robert P. Rooney '89 and Ron Simons '82, BUS'89. More on the evening: college.columbia.edu/alumni/events/johnjay/2018.

Rich and Jared's appearance made me think of my first days on Morningside Heights with my roommate **Ben Weaver** and suitemates **Dan Herman** and The One Who Transferred to Cornell. Are any of you in touch with your first roommates? Drop me a note!

Negar Ahkami writes: "I enjoyed a great turnout at reunion last year, as well as at the John Jay Awards Dinner this year, which honored my friend **Eric Garcetti.**

"I am an artist and, for the last two years, I have been in a long-term artist residency at Arlington Arts Center, which gives me a semi-subsidized art studio for six years in a vital contemporary arts venue in the D.C. area. As part of my residency, I recently had a solo exhibition, which ran April 14–June 2, *Fantasy Will Set You Free.*"

Please permit me a bit of personal news. By the time this goes to print, I will have a new job: chief Washington correspondent for SiriusXM satellite radio. The job will keep me at the White House much of the time, but it also comes with a daily show around evening drive-time. It's a little scary to shift from writing the news — something I have been doing since July 1996 — to radio. And I had a great run at Yahoo! News. But it's an exciting opportunity that I simply could not pass up. Come July, I take on another challenge as president of the White House Correspondents Association. Yeah, yeah, you've heard about the annual dinner (it's our only fundraiser). But the job is fundamentally about advancing the interests of the news media covering the most powerful political institution on the planet. Day to day, the WHCA works to ensure that every medium that covers the White House gets what it needs — pictures, sound, the ability to ask questions of the President and his advisers and so on. That regularly puts us at odds with the White House — every White House. I will, however, remain your humble Class Notes correspondent, so keep your personal news coming!

1993

Betsy Gomperz
betsy.gomperz@gmail.com

No news this issue, but please look out for the Fall issue, where we will have a robust 25th reunion roundup! And don't forget that you can still make a donation to the Class of 1993 25th Reunion Scholarship — it's a gift for graduating seniors, the first of its kind for Columbia. Go to givenow.columbia.edu and select "25th Reunion Scholarship."

1994

Leyla Kokmen
lak6@columbia.edu

We kick off this issue with two big news items from **Imara Jones:** "The first is that I am transitioning from MTF," she writes. "In some ways that supersedes all other updates." But the other big news is the launch of her weekly news program, *The Last Sip: A News Program for the Rest of Us,* which focuses on spotlighting innovations to social problems in historically marginalized communities. The show airs on Free Speech TV, the same home as *Democracy Now!,* and, Imara writes, "for those sleeping in Sunday mornings it will be available on demand on the web and OTT [over-the-top] devices like AppleTV."

Monique Morris writes that her book, *Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools,* was recently released in paperback, featuring a foreword by Mankaprr Conteh and Melissa Harris-Perry. "I'm busy filming a *Pushout* documentary," Monique adds. "Very excited about it!"

Sergio La Porta writes that he is married to Malina Zakian and has two children, Lucine (12) and Zaven (10). Since 2009, he has been the Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies and is also chair of the Department of Philosophy at California State University Fresno. "In addition to teaching Armenian Studies, I also teach a humanities course, which I modeled somewhat on Lit Hum," Sergio writes. "It is fantastic to see students fall in love with Homer, Euripides, Virgil, Ovid and Dante. We are enjoying life in California and have fellow Columbia alumni as friends! Very entertaining to rehash our Columbia experiences."

Also enjoying life in California is **Ocean MacAdams,** who writes that, two years ago, after 26 years in New York, he and his wife relocated to San Francisco: "We love it here and the kids (12, 7 and 4) have all settled in nicely. I still get to see New York, however, because for the last year I've been running Thrillist, an NYC-based media company that covers food, drink and travel. I'm there about every other week (ask me anything about the Delta frequent flyer program)."

Ocean adds that he'd love to see more Class of 1994 friends, noting that he recently visited Poland to see **Jonathan Roy,** who moved to Warsaw with his wife to open the restaurant Koko & Roy. "If you're ever in that neck of the woods," Ocean says, "do check it out!"

Rebecca Weinberg writes of an upcoming trip to Chicago with two of her three kids to visit **Rachel Dewoskin,** as well as a potential catch-up with **Anne Kornblut** in California later this summer. On the career front, Rebecca recently earned a master's in social work from Penn, and in addition to building a property management company with her husband in downtown Philadelphia, she works part-time at Planned Parenthood with transgender clients.

Another professional update came in from **Karen Sendler,** who this spring started as executive director of alumnae relations at Barnard. "It's been fun being back on Morningside Heights in a professional capacity and getting to work with such wonderful alumnae, many of whom are friends from my CC days," Karen writes.

A great first-time update came from **Chris William** GSAS'02, PS'03, who reports that during grad school and med school at Columbia, he married Srilakshmi Gnanasekaran '93, PS'00, PH'01 and moved to Boston for 13 years. "We moved back to New York about two years ago, with a son who is now 12, spending free time at soccer games, watching superhero movies and playing Settlers of Catan," Chris writes. "I'm a neuropathologist at NYU School of Medicine with a laboratory using mice to study functional decline in Alzheimer's disease and learning delay in Down syndrome."

Tom Lecky writes that in 2016, after 17 years as the head of the Books & Manuscripts Department at Christie's auction house, he left to buy Riverrun Books, a 40-year-old antiquarian book business in Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y. "I am now an independent adviser, appraiser and dealer," he writes. "You might sometimes see me on *Antiques Roadshow,* which I have appeared on since 1999. My wife, Amanda BC'94, and I have two sons, John and Wyatt, in high school. We celebrated our 24th (!) anniversary in June."

And finally, **Danny Franklin** welcomed new addition Jacob Frederick on October 31. Jacob joins sister Anna (3), sister Phoebe (12) and brother, Sam (14).

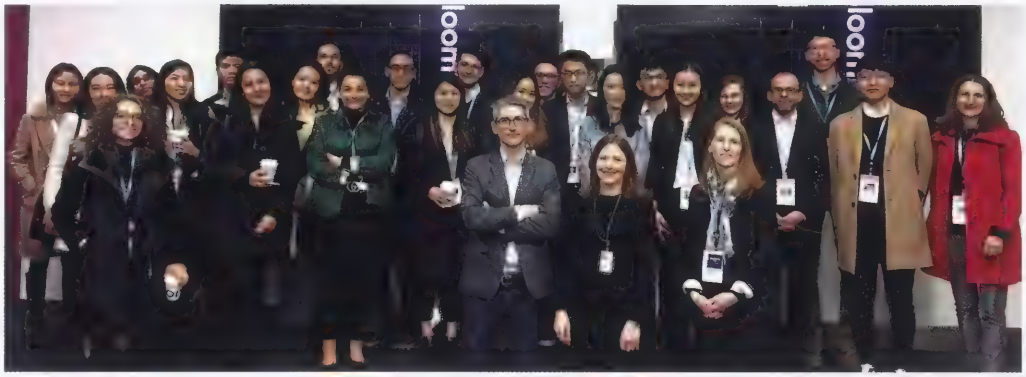
Congrats and thanks to everyone who shared such great news. Keep it coming!

1995

Janet Lorin
jrf10@columbia.edu

Congratulations to **Arun Kristian Das** JRN'01, who married his longtime partner, Erin Lynn Nau, on September 30 in Astoria Park. "Despite the chill, it was perfect," Arun writes. "We were surrounded by friends and family and had a wonderful night." A few Columbians attended.

Arun has been working for more than 17 years at WNYW/Fox 5 News, where he is a web and social media content producer. He also volunteers with New York Cares and the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. He recently started New York on Foot to encourage locals and visitors to see NYC via walking, running and hiking. "For now, I lead biweekly



Nick Summers '05 and Janet Lorin '95 (both front, center) spoke to a group of College students at Bloomberg; Lorin hosted the visit through Columbia's Center for Career Education.

run-walk groups in Astoria, but I hope to soon host more events — walking tours, hikes, group runs — and create useful content online to help people explore New York on their own," he writes.

Erin is the counseling and education coordinator at the Adelphi NY Statewide Breast Cancer Hotline and Support Program, considered the oldest breast cancer hotline in the United States. She is also a candidate for a Ph.D. in social work at Adelphi.

Congratulations to **David Webber**, whose book *The Rise of the Working Class Shareholder: Labor's Last Best Weapon* came out in April. David is a law professor at Boston University. The book tells the story of innovative and successful labor activists whose work has been almost invisible. "These folks have figured out how to use labor's unheralded shareholder power, vested in its trillions of dollars of pension funds, to create jobs, to fend off attacks on worker pension funds, to rein in CEO pay and tie it to worker pay, to radically reform corporate voting, to sue companies that commit fraud and to push back against hedge funds and private equity funds that take worker pension dollars and use it against their interests," David writes.

"I think it's crucial to spotlight it, particularly at a moment when labor's options are becoming increasingly desperate in this country," he writes. "I also show how the Koch brothers and others are threatening this activism, why it is so important to rally to defend and protect it and how we can do so."

It was great to hear David on Bloomberg Radio recently. I hit the 10-year mark at Bloomberg News in April. After writing about college admissions and student loans for about eight years, I switched to college endowments. My stories often appear in *Bloomberg Businessweek* and *Bloomberg Markets* magazine, and I'm on Bloomberg Radio weekly. I recently hosted a group of College students at Bloomberg.

Thanks for the updates, and please keep the news coming.

1996

Ana S. Salper
ana.salper@nyumc.org

Happy summer, classmates! I have **Pete Freeman** to thank for the only notes we have in this issue. Pete moved to Freddie Mac last December, joining **Scott Walker**, who is also an associate general counsel there. Pete lives in Maryland with his wife, Jill Fine BC'96, daughter, Lily, and son, Max. Scott lives in Virginia with his wife, Heather, and sons, Collin, Ian and Jacob.

Pete also writes that he streamed *Get Me Roger Stone* on Netflix, and spotted **Fred Stanton** in the credits as a producer. Pete enjoys keeping up the class Facebook group (search for "Columbia College Class of 1996") and urges those who don't plan to #deletefacebook to join.

Separately, and without prompting by yours truly, he says everyone should brag a little bit and send in an update for the next Class Notes column, since we are a long way from our 25th reunion. Please write — we want to hear what you're doing!

"There is only one thing in life worse than being talked about, and that is not being talked about." — Oscar Wilde

1997

Kerensa Harrell
kvh1@columbia.edu

Classmates, this is my inaugural issue as your new class correspondent! How very exciting it is for me to be passed the torch from **Sarah Katz**, whom we should all thank for her 20 years of service.

Last fall, I decided to step down from my volunteer position of several years as recording secretary for the Manhattan chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. That position required me to attend the monthly meetings in person and I'm no longer able to travel regularly to NYC now that I have a baby (before the baby arrived, I used to fly to NYC from Florida once a month just to attend DAR meetings!). So I was thrilled when the position of *CCT* class correspondent opened up, as it's some volunteer work that I can easily do from home in Florida while the baby is napping.

I emailed all of you at the beginning of March with an invitation to share your updates. If you didn't receive my email, that means that I don't have your correct email address, in which case please do let me know what it is by writing to me at the email address at the top of this column. [Editor's note: Please also let the Alumni Office know: college.columbia.edu/cct/update_contact_info.]

I am delighted to report that seven classmates shared updates.

Our first update comes from **Sareeta Amrute**, who notes that her book, *Encoding Race Encoding Class: Indian IT Workers in Berlin*, was recently awarded the Diana Forsythe Prize for the best book in the anthropology of science, technology and medicine: gad.americananthro.org/diana-forsythe-prize. Sareeta went to Berlin as part of the research for her book — the same city where, when we were students, our paths first crossed.

If I may take a moment to indulge a memory, it was during our junior year when we both signed up to be foreign exchange students in Germany. We were part of the inaugural group of around a dozen or so undergrads from Columbia and a few other Ivies who spent their spring 1996 semester in Berlin, taking undergraduate courses at the Freie Universität as well as at Humboldt-Universität. This was an exchange program arranged by the Berlin Consortium for German Studies. BCGS required that students already be proficient in German in order to participate. We were told to simply take any courses that interested us — these were all regular undergraduate courses in the German university system, taught in German alongside German college students. We lived in student housing called Studentendorf Schlachtensee, which was in the verdant Zehlendorf neighborhood.

How fondly I remember those days! I used to hop on the U-bahn and the S-bahn, frequently going to Berlin's three big theaters — the Staatsoper, the Deutsche Oper and the Komische Oper — where I would gleefully watch all sorts of ballets and operas in an orchestra seat for something like $10 per show, thanks to Germany's benevolence in giving discounts to college students. I reveled in strolls along the grandly beautiful Unter den Linden boulevard, on my way to the university or to the opera house, admiring the historic buildings and imbibing the old spirit of the imperial era. My imagination ran wild as I would saunter through the palaces of Charlottenburg and Sanssouci, pretending that I lived there! I excitedly signed up for all the dance classes that I could find around town, further honing my technique in ballet and ballroom styles that I had begun studying at Columbia. What lovely boat rides there were on the Spree River, and who could forget the glorious Botanic Garden! There may also have been a Persian Freund, although I had better return to academic details



Emilie Jacobs '00, Raji Kalra '97 and Gabrielle Ponder '97 traveled to Nigeria to attend the engagement celebration of Lia Johnson '97.

now. The focus of my studies in Berlin was Russian poetry in German translation (translating Russian poetry into German and then discussing and writing about it in German).

During our semester in Berlin, our program arranged for our entire group to take a train ride from Berlin to Prague for a week of summer vacation. What a fairy tale city Prague was! I remember **Nathan Hillstrom** flying to Berlin just for a couple of weeks or so, in order to join us for the fun train trip to Prague. After returning to Berlin he and I also paid a visit to the enchanting Peacock Island, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that can only be reached by small ferry.

Ah, memories!

Moving on, **Rebekah Gee** PH'98 was elected to the National Academy of Medicine. She lives in New Orleans and is the secretary of health for Gov. John Bel Edwards (D-La.) for the state of Louisiana. In this role, she is in charge of Medicaid and public health for the state, with a $14 billion annual budget. She has been married to David Patron for seven years. Their twins, Elizabeth and Eva, are 5. She is also the stepmother of Ben, Elly and Nathan.

Kerri Stone reports that in January she was privileged, as the chair of the Association of American Law Schools' Section on Women in Legal Education, to accept the Section of the Year Award on behalf of the section. She elaborates: "The ceremony was in San Diego, and I was lucky to turn it into a family trip with my husband, Josh, a lawyer; my son, Dylan (5); and my daughter, Marlee (2). We live in Coconut Grove, Fla., where I am a law professor at Florida International University College of Law."

Jen Gatien shares: "There have been enough years between our graduation and where I am today to recognize how much Columbia shaped me. My father was indicted during my junior year. Thankfully, with the help of the Dean's Office, I was able to graduate with my peers. I have been producing films that focus on criminal justice and am working with Amazon to develop a feature based on this time in my life. The script (being written by Nick Pileggi and JJ Sacha) looks at our city under the reign of Mayor Rudy Giuliani, the power of the media, the challenges of a college student navigating the world of the federal justice system and the nightlife world of downtown New York. Very proud that I made it through that time!"

John Dean Alfone recently attended a music conference, SXSW Music 2018, and published an article about it, which you can read at bit.ly/2qIlNji.

Raji Kalra reveals that she and **Gabrielle Ponder** attended the engagement celebration of **Lia Johnson** to Olawale Akinsehinwa in Lagos, Nigeria. Also in attendance were Emily Blumsack '00 and Emilie Jacobs '00. Festivities included Femi Kuti's performance at the historic New Afrika Shrine, traditional dances from different tribes and a day at a private beach club. Raji says she is looking forward to their wedding in the Bahamas later this year. She adds: "From Nigeria, I went on to visit a friend in Kenya. This year will mark my 50th country visited!"

Wow, and I thought I had been to a lot of foreign countries (25 last time I counted). But Raji has definitely outdone me. Now there's a girl after my own heart!

I will wrap up this column with my own update. We spent my birthday this February in Boca Raton, where I was delighted to let my then–15-month-old baby, Amara, experience her first carousel ride at the lovely Sugar Sands playground. She took great delight in going up and down on her colorfully painted horse as the waltz music played (but then I'm afraid she was quite unwilling to leave the carousel!). It has been such a joy this past 1.5 years to watch her develop. At the time of my writing this, she is 16 months old and is the cutest little toddler imaginable. Her vocabulary is exploding now with dozens of words that she can say — both verbal and sign language. She can recognize a few numbers and letters now, too, and already has a little repertoire of dance moves. I've put away my passport now and am content to just spend my days simply being her mother. Cue the Nat King Cole song "Around The World …"

Blessings to all, and please do send me your updates!

1998

Sandie Angulo Chen
sandie.chen@gmail.com

No notes for this issue, but the Fall issue will be chock full of news from our highly anticipated 20th reunion! Please take a moment to send in a note and I'll add it to the collection. Be well!

1999

Adrienne Carter and Jenna Johnson
adieliz@gmail.com
jennajohnson@gmail.com

Brad Neuberg and his wife, Abby, welcomed their daughter, Cameron MacKenzie-Morse Neuberg, on January 16. Brad has been at Dropbox on the machine learning team as a software engineer for several years. We are happy to hear that he still keeps in touch with and sees **Laurent Vasilescu** and **Susan Kassin.**

Kandi Birdsell Parsons was named shareholder at ZwillGen, a boutique privacy and data security law firm in Washington, D.C. She also added two members to her family: a rescued Boxer mix, Max (who has one blue eye and one brown), and a bearded dragon, Groot, whom her son assures her will not live beyond when he heads to college.

We caught up with Kandi in New Orleans this spring with some other Columbia classmates, but we were sad to miss **Dimitri Apessos,** who has been living and writing in NOLA.

Have a wonderful summer, and please be sure to send news to the addresses at the top of the column!

2000

Prisca Bae
pb134@columbia.edu

How's summer treating you, CC'00? Any fun trips, summer adventures or relaxing lazy days? Share your news here. Your classmates want to hear from you!

2001

Jonathan Gordin
jrg53@columbia.edu

Hi everyone! Last August, **Mary Herrington** (née Lee) returned to Columbia — as an employee. She writes, "I work at the Law School, where I advise law students and alumni on careers in law and professional development with a fantastic team, including Stephen Buchman '59, LAW'62; Michael Kerman LAW'08; and Marta Ricardo LAW'94. My family's footprints are all over the city: My husband and I commute from Brooklyn every day to Midtown and Morningside Heights; my daughter will start kindergarten later this year in Manhattan; and my son is an adorable preschooler in Brooklyn Heights."

Mary caught up in the past year with **Tricia Beckles,** "who lives near me in Brooklyn and is in-house counsel at Novartis," and her former roommate **Cheryl Young,** "who was in town to run a half-marathon and has been based in San Francisco since completing a Ph.D. at UC Berkeley."

Thanks for the great update, Mary, and for your continuing service to Columbia!

Andrew Rudman wrote in with a great update: "I live in Los Angeles with my wife, Punam, and my 2-year-old daughter, Uma. After getting a master's in mathematics at Boston College in 2005, and briefly flirting with the idea of an academic career, I hit the road with my group, The Two Man Gentlemen Band, and spent the better part of the last decade barnstorming across the country and Europe playing '20s- and '30s-style novelty music, while occasionally working on mathematics textbooks on the side. Since early 2013, I've been the series composer and songwriter for a Disney cartoon series, *Wander Over Yonder* (working as 'Andy Bean'). The show starts its second season early next year." [Editor's note: See the Summer 2015 issue of *CCT*.]

Thanks, Andrew!

Please let me know what you are up to this summer! Your classmates would love to hear from you.

2002

Sonia Dandona Hirdaramani
soniah57@gmail.com

Jill Santopolo '03's first novel for adults, *The Light We Lost*, came out in May and hit both *The New York Times* and the *USA Today* bestseller lists; it also hit the bestseller lists in Italy, Germany and Sweden. Additionally, Reese Witherspoon chose it as her February pick for the Reese Witherspoon Book Club and it's in development with Southpaw Entertainment to become a feature film. The book starts at Columbia on September 11, 2001, so there's a lot of Columbia love in the pages! I cannot wait to get my hands on a copy!

Mike Mellia was commissioned by Hermès of Paris to direct and film a series of surreal fashion videos.

Sheethal Shobowale SPS'06 took a position at Google as global head of business analytics at Waze. Her role is to create meaningful and fun data insights at scale for her business partners, press and consumers. It requires a few trips to Israel every year, and in June, she is taking the whole family for the first time. Her sons are Hudson, who turned 6 on Tax Day, and Rafael ("Rafi"), who turned 4 on March 3. They are almost finished renovating a passive house in Boerum Hill, Brooklyn, where they hope to host many friends and family.

Miriam Sheinbein lives in San Francisco with her husband and kids (Cruv, 10; Rimon, 7; and Lefett, 4) and is "still (proudly and defiantly) working at Planned Parenthood and teaching family medicine residents at UCSF San Francisco General Hospital. At the end of April, **Karen Austrian** PH'07 is coming to visit all the way from Nairobi!"

Jarvis Buckman '03, SEAS'03, BUS'11 is an investment analyst at Knighthead Capital in Midtown, where he has worked since April 2014. Prior, he was a desk analyst at Credit Suisse from 2011.

Jarvis married Floriande Buckman on September 1, 2013, and they are parents to son Victor (3), and daughter Jamie, who was born on Brexit [June 2016]. They live in Hamilton Heights.

Jennifer Wildeman had a son, Logan Wildeman, last summer, so that makes two kids: Lana and Logan. Jennifer is the senior portfolio advisor at Aksia, in NYC.

2003

Michael Novielli
mjn29@columbia.edu

I first and foremost thank and acknowledge **Tamar Simon** for her efforts to improve communications with our class. She's spent countless hours updating our class Facebook page and class contact information. If you haven't already done so, please request to join our Class of 2003 Facebook page: facebook.com/columbia2003. And if you aren't receiving email communications from the Alumni Office or copies of *Columbia College Today* at home, please update your info: college.columbia.edu/cct/update_contact_info.

I was fortunate to attend **Ken Sim**'s wedding to Laura Rieber here in Singapore. There were a few other Columbians in attendance, including Chee Gan '05, who represented Ken's friends by making an awesome speech.

In more wedding news, **Andy So** married Amy Chan in Honolulu, Hawaii, in February. A number of classmates were in attendance, including **Albert Shin, Mike Chee, Ella Tay** (née Chang), Ed Yung '04, Shawn Tay SEAS'04 and **John Kwak SEAS'03.**

Robyn Schwartz writes, "Dan Hammerman '02 and I are in Los Angeles and expect to be here through summer 2019. We're not sure where and what will follow but hope that the next stop is more permanent — we're grateful that we haven't had to change cities (or even apartments) in nearly three years! In February we welcomed our second child, Benjamin Amos ('Benny'). While he and big sister Elsa would love to see where their parents met, the timing of reunion unfortunately does not coincide with our plans to come east to see family in late summer. I will miss the opportunity to reconnect in person and wander around campus, but will watch these pages for everyone's updates."

Andy Shin writes, "I moved back to Los Angeles after living in San Francisco and New York City since graduation. We bought a house in Sherman Oaks and our daughter turned 3 in June. I've stayed in technology since graduation and I'm the chief technology officer for the tech start-up GOAT, in Culver City, Calif."

Jill Santopolo continues to make headlines, this time because her bestselling debut novel, *The Light We Lost* (a love story that rises out of the tragedy of 9-11, about a couple who meet at Columbia that morning and both decide that they want their lives to matter), will be adapted into a film.

Jeremy Fourteau is director of product at Headspace, the popular guided meditation platform.

Eve Bloomgarden is an assistant professor of medicine (endocrinology) at Northwestern.

Dan Chen '02 has been social chair of the Columbia Alumni Association boards for both Hong Kong and Singapore, between which he has split his time for the past several years.

Stay tuned for updates from Reunion 2018 in the next column!

2004

Jaydip Mahida
jmahida@gmail.com

A few updates to share for this issue. Let's definitely keep the momentum up, as we have generally seen a good number of updates coming in recently!

Andrew Lebwohl LAW'07 writes, "I started in July at Huron Consulting Group, focusing on turnaround and restructuring advisory. I was a corporate bankruptcy lawyer through the financial crisis, but I wanted to be a part of the business-decision-making process. I've been thrilled with the switch, and my kids enjoy actually getting to see me on the weekends!"

After winning a Newbery Honor in 2017 for his children's novel *The Inquisitor's Tale*, **Adam Gidwitz** has created a new book series for kids ages 7–10: *The Unicorn Rescue Society*. Two kids and an eccentric mentor try to save the world's mythical creatures from the evil billionaire Schmoke brothers. The series is funny, fast-paced and richly illustrated.

On my end, I recently started organizing monthly get-togethers in New York for alumni who are brothers of my fraternity, Psi U. It has been really nice to reconnect with old friends still in the area.

Please continue to send in updates, as we want to hear from as many folks as possible. Career and family updates are always fun, but please reach out to share about trips you may be taking, events you have attended or are looking forward to, or even interesting books or shows you have come across. You can send updates either via the email at the top of the column or via the *CCT* Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2005

Columbia College Today
cct@columbia.edu

Happy summer, Class of 2005!

Daniella Ross writes, "I recently moved back to Los Angeles with my husband after several years in Michigan. I'm an ER veterinarian in a specialty hospital."

Thanks for writing, Daniella!

Andrea Cortes-Comerer was promoted to senior director at Oppenheimer & Co. earlier this year. She is responsible for Oppenheimer's custodial retirement plans and works with the firm's advisors on client matters.

Congrats, Andrea!

CC'05, let's hear from you! This is your column, and we'd love to hear all about your summer actvitities — send your news to cct@columbia.edu.

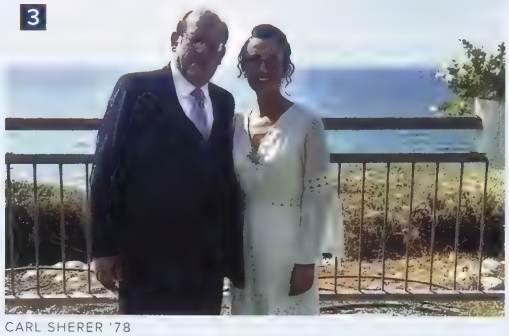
Just Married!

CCT welcomes wedding photos where at least one member of the couple is a College alum. Please submit your high-resolution photo, and caption information, on our photo webform: **college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo**. Congratulations!





WOLFGANG FREITHOF – A DAY OF BLISS



CARL SHERER '78

1. On September 30, Arun Kristian Das '95 married Erin Lynn Nau in Astoria Park, Queens.

2. Stephanie Demko (née Davis) '09 married Adrian Demko '07 on February 17 in Brooklyn, N.Y., at the Weylin (The Williamsburgh Savings Bank). Left to right: Andrew Walther '07, Andrew Ward '07, Adriana Sein '07, Clare Murphy BC'06, Shaun Rowatt '09, Shay Murphy '06, Dan Neczypor '08, Angela Zhao '14, Bryan Mochizuki '07, Tim Paulin '08, Monesh Kirpalani GSAS'06, Will Lipovsky '10, Dan Palmer '07, Henry Perkins '08, Todd Abrams '07, Michael Roberts '09, Alex Contratto '11, Kelley Steuerer '09, Michelle Hull LAW'11, Jess Cui BC'12, Lindsey Kremer BC'11, Elena Cooper '09, Jess Chan '06, Krissy Loo BC'07, the bride, the groom, Chris Dugan '09, Mike Malfettone '08, Dave Schulte SEAS'06, William Reggio SEAS'13, Jason Matos '08, Jake Olson '07, Luciana Olson '07, Moran Forman '09, Daisy Nguyen (SEAS staff), Michael DeFazio '06, Matt Barsamian '07 and Noah Cooper '08.

3. Gary Pickholz '78 married Shira Gvir on September 15 by the sea, north of Tel Aviv.

4. On August 26, Christina Vlahos Profestas '14 married James Profestas SIPA'14 at the Garden City Hotel on Long Island. Left to right: Jeffrey Levine SIPA'05, Scott Trenary BUS'16, Marios Hatzikyriakou SEAS'08, Steven Foundos BUS'06, SIPA'07, the groom, the bride, Louis Vlahos '84, Alyssa Ehrlich '14, Maryann Vlahos '14, Malvina Kefalas BC'14 and Kinno Norojono '14.

5. Katerina Vorotova '07 married Anton Deinega in Playa Larga, Cuba, on January 13. Left to right: Eugene Okon SEAS'06, the bride, the groom, Anastassiia Botchkareva '06 and Nikkie Zanevksy '07.



JoVON



PETER OWEN BUS '14

2006

Michelle Oh Sing
mo2057@columbia.edu

Hi everyone. A few exciting updates from classmates this season!

After spending their sophomore year as next-door neighbors in McBain, **Mary Kate Bacalao** (née Johnson) and **Sam Schon** now have even more in common. Mary Kate and her husband, Luis, welcomed daughter Ela Selene on January 31 in San Francisco, while Sam and his wife, Katie, welcomed daughter Margaret Joan on February 2 in Houston. They wish they were still next-door neighbors, but they have other things in common, including regularly scheduled nap times and prodigious diaper outputs.

Lisa Speransky is honored to have been named CEO of BabyBjörn in January, after having been with BÉABA (another European baby brand) for five years, most recently as president and CEO of its North American business. BabyBjorn is the North American subsidiary of the 57-year-old family-owned Swedish baby gear brand, most famous for inventing the style of baby carriers and baby bouncers that we still use today.

Lisa's exciting winter continued as she married Matthew Moore, who is general counsel at Influential. Almost 300 guests attended the Brooklyn wedding on March 10, including **Meghan Jewitt SEAS'06, Melissa Branfman, Brian Ruby SEAS'06** and Elena Lagoutova BC'07.

Katharine Gerbner published a book, *Christian Slavery: Conversion and Race in the Protestant Atlantic World*. She is an assistant professor of history at the University of Minnesota.

Send in your news for an upcoming issue by emailing me at mo2057@columbia.edu. Your classmates want to hear from you!

2007

David D. Chait
david.donner.chait@gmail.com

Thank you everyone for sharing your exciting updates!

Kat Vorotova BUS'14 and Anton Deinega, in their globetrotting fashion, celebrated their marriage on the south coast of Cuba with 36 of their closest family and friends in attendance on the rapidly changing island. Several classmates were there, including **Nikkie Zanevsky**, Eugene Okon SEAS'06, Anastassiia Botchkareva '06, Peter Owen BUS'14, Natalie Tateyama BUS'14, Zakie Twainy BUS'14 and David Foult SIPA'14, Kat's co-founder in their food tech startup, Try The World.

Christin Alvarez (née Moné) and **Giovanni Alvarez** welcomed their son, Benicio Moné Alvarez, into the world on November 9. He already technically attended Columbia's victorious Homecoming game last fall but he can't wait to see the next one with his own eyes.

David Greenhouse writes, "My wife, Emily, and I decided we're not too old for another adventure, so we said goodbye to London and moved to Berlin. I am enjoying living in an apartment after many years in Victorian cottages and learning many funny German words (best one so far: Reformhaus = health food store). Emily loves being able to walk to work. Wilbur (our 1-year-old) is scooting around our floor and enjoying laughing at everything. I've had a wonderful time being a full-time dad for the last few months, although I was looking forward to getting back to work in the spring when Wilbur starts Kita (nursery). Come and visit Berlin anytime!"

Sarah Smick shares exciting news: "I'm pleased to announce that I had a baby girl on January 22 — Annie Marlo Michaels, 6 pounds, 3 ounces, 21 inches. She's amazing! I'm also thrilled to share that I executive produced a feature film that premiered at SXSW in March. The film's called *Unlovable* and stars Oscar-winner Melissa Leo and Oscar-nominee John Hawkes."

Rowan Moore Gerety shares, "My first book, *Go Tell the Crocodiles: Chasing Prosperity in Mozambique*, was published in February. I live in Miami and am trying to remember to take advantage of living near the water while I can."

Julia Kite writes, "In February, my debut novel, *The Hope and Anchor*, was published. The book was made immensely better by the input of members of the Columbia Fiction Foundry, a shared interest group that meets the first Saturday of every month at the Columbia Alumni Center. We're always looking for members, so if you're writing fiction in any genre for adults, get in touch!"

2008

Neda Navab
nn2126@columbia.edu

Teriha Yaegashi is the development director at Art in General, a historic, nonprofit arts institution in DUMBO, Brooklyn, that functions as part-museum, part-arts incubator.

Liz Grefrath and her husband, Joshua Furst (who's on the School of the Arts faculty), welcomed their second son, Warren Olin Sessions, on December 27. Liz works at the ACLU in service of your civil rights, and is almost halfway through law school in the part-time J.D. program at Brooklyn Law School. She lives in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, with her family.

Jonathan Basile published his first book of literary criticism and philosophy, *Tar for Mortar: "The Library of Babel" and the Dream of Totality*.

Betsy Purves (née Remes) and her husband, Jon, are thrilled to announce the birth of their son, Robert, on December 25. The whole family is happy and healthy in Washington, D.C. (despite living in a swamp, apparently). They look forward to introducing him to Columbia and New York City at reunion!

Kevin Crews LAW'08 has been named a 2018 Texas Rising Star by Super Lawyers. Texas Rising Stars is an annual list of exceptional lawyers in the state who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement, and who are either 40 or younger or have been practicing for 10 years or fewer. This distinction is given to only 2 percent of young attorneys in Texas.

John Gardner started EverFit, a personal training company that runs on Slack, in 2017. They are on a mission to make high-end fitness available to everyone. For $95 a month, their on-demand, human coach guides you through a daily personalized nutrition, exercise and wellness program.

Neil Flanagan "is trying to shake up D.C.'s architecture scene through Turncoats DC, the first American chapter of an off-the-record debate club about urbanism and design. On top of practicing architecture, I also revealed the story of Reno, an African-American town cleared in the 1920s to build one of Washington's most desirable neighborhoods; it was two years of research published as a cover article for D.C.'s alt-weekly, *Washington City Paper*."

2009

Alidad Damooei
damooei@gmail.com

What's the buzz, CC'09? The column is empty this issue, but I know that your summers are full of adventure and excitement — share that with your classmates! Shoot me an email at damooei@gmail.com and you'll be in a future issue. Can't wait to hear from you. Have a great summer!

2010

Julia Feldberg Klein
juliafeldberg@gmail.com

Congratulations to **Abby Finkel** (née Oberman), who shares, "My husband, Bryan, and I welcomed our second son, Parker Isaac, on February 19. Parker joins big brother Asher, who is thrilled with his new role, in rooting for the Lions!"

Michael Tannenbaum married Jennifer Zeckendorf at the Union Club in New York City on April 14. Groomsmen included Joseph Charalel '11, **Jonathan Kaiser, Austin Lawrence** and **Landon Tucker.**

Gabriella Ripoll writes, "In fall 2016 I started working in the legal department of an amazing company, Delos, which specializes in wellness solutions for the built environment (circadian lighting, purification of air and water, policy recommendations for employers and communities, etc.). Last fall we moved to a beautiful, fully wellness-outfitted office in the Meatpacking District, where I see the sun set over the Hudson every day (also because I'm an attorney and I usually work past sunset). I joke that being an in-house attorney is a lot like being the 'mom' of the company, trying to wrangle wayward businessmen away from unnecessary risks. But it's fun work and I'm learning things all the time. Plus, my office is dog-friendly so I get to bring my dog, Lillipup, often (she is well loved by my coworkers).

"I live in Brooklyn and ran into **Kevin Jason** and his lovely fiancée, Megan, last fall at the Renaissance Faire in Fort Tryon Park, where we caught up for a bit while watching sword fighting before getting lost in the crowds again. I recently took a blacksmithing class with my boyfriend, Fil, and we each made a functional (and very sharp) knife from a chunk of steel (and got a couple of burns and blisters in the process).

From **Chris Yim:** "My wife, Grace, and I are setting off on a nine-month adventure. Our first stop is London, and we'll keep going east from there. My journey has led me to seek contentment, and my intention for our time traveling is to deepen our relationship. I'm sad to leave San Francisco and the community that I have here. I feel so lucky to have had this group of friends that have inspired and showered me with love over these past few years. I'm beginning to understand that making the most of my privilege means sharing my love in abundance.

"A few weeks ago, I went to New Orleans for **Varun Gulati SEAS'10**'s bachelor party. We rolled 16 people deep, danced our faces off on Bourbon Street and kayaked in the swamp with an anarchist activist as our kayaking guide. It was so beautiful to be in nature, having my heart chakra open up with brethren. We had quite a Columbia contingent with **Dario Abramskiehn, Jake Grumbach, Allon Brann,** Raja Gupta '15, Narayan Subramanian SEAS'13, Todd Nelson '12, David Collier '09 and Justin Leung '09. We had Bhangra music and 'Despacito' bumping on speakers as we cruised through that town on a party bus. One observation that I made was just how magnetic energy is on the dance floor. It really gets people going!

"I loved getting to witness friends experience New Orleans for the first time. It's a special place, where the party floods out into the street, the live music blares and the people are dancing all over the place. It's amazing because you can roam from party to party and move without much friction. The culture is loud and vibrant, quite different from San Francisco. The funniest event that happened was that Allon got stranded at Harrah's looking for a kosher hamburger. He refuses to get a smartphone, so he couldn't call an Uber. He got driven home by a soccer mom with a minivan.

"Life is good. I am content!"

2011

Nuriel Moghavem and Sean Udell
nurielm@gmail.com
sean.udell@gmail.com

Howdy, 2011! We continue to be thrilled by your updates; thanks for keeping all of us in the loop about the exciting things going on in your lives.

Nuriel Moghavem recently finished his first year of residency (aka internship) at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center. He'll officially start his neurology residency at Stanford in July. While he's working that casual intern schedule, he's managed to keep an incredible health policy blog going; take a look at informedconsentca.com to read his healthcare musings. He's also probably doing a million other things, too, but he's trying to protect **Sean Udell** from developing a robust inferiority complex.

To be fair, Sean is doing some things! In addition to trudging through board exams and pretending to be a doctor, Sean is supplementing his third year of medical school by taking a meditation and mindfulness course with **Dhruv Vasishtha.** The course is based at Penn's Perelman School of Medicine, but Dhruv managed to convince all of Wharton to sign up, too. As part of the course, Sean and Dhruv recently participated in a day-long silent retreat. They capped off their day of Zen with their partners on a double date at a Malaysian restaurant in South Philadelphia.

Some other classmates are also partaking in the pure joy of medical education. **Erin Adams** recently completed her first year of medical school at Howard University College of Medicine. She is spending

KNOW ANY GAME CHANGERS, TASTEMAKERS, WORLD SHAKERS?

LION'S PRIDE

INSPIRING ALUMNI OF THE LAST 10 YEARS

Help us honor alumni from the Classes of 2009 to 2018 who are contributing to culture, making their mark in business or having a meaningful impact on the world. Nominate an inspiring young alum — or yourself — for the first-ever "Lion's Pride," brought to you by *Columbia College Today* and Columbia College Young Alumni.

TELL US WHO THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE COMMUNITY SHOULD KNOW ABOUT.
Go to **college.columbia.edu/cct/lionspride** before August 1, 2018.

HONOREES WILL BE FEATURED IN CCT'S WINTER 2018–19 ISSUE.

the summer in Peru on a medical mission trip (any suggestions on where to go or what to see would be highly appreciated by her!). On the other end of medical school, **Rajkaran Sachdej,** who hails from Guam, recently got that M.D. from the Oregon Health and Science University. He spent much of his tenure at OHSU promoting diversity and inclusion initiatives and interprofessional collaboration between the health graduate schools. This year, he was the university's student council president, is a recipient of the esteemed Dean's Award for contributions to the curriculum and delivered the Convocation address to the entire student body. He recently matched into a psychiatry residency at The George Washington University and looks forward to pursuing cultural psychiatry and global mental health.

Mazel tov to both Erin and Raj!

Natalia Fontecilla PS'18 also recently graduated with that M.D., and this is extra-special news because hers is from alma mater! This summer, Natalia is moving from P&S to Johns Hopkins to pursue a residency in dermatology.

Well done, Natalia!

If that wasn't enough, she's engaged to her physics lab partner, Michael Biles GS'11, PS'16. Pupin Hall isn't exactly known for its romantic charm, but we're glad your electrons came into orbit in the same place where the atomic bomb was conceived. Michael and Natalia will be married in Annapolis, Md., this fall.

Erin Adams '11 completed her first year at the Howard University College of Medicine and is spending the summer in Peru on a medical mission trip.

Class Notes are submitted by alumni and edited by volunteer class correspondents and the staff of *CCT* prior to publication. Opinions expressed are those of individual alumni and do not reflect the opinions of *CCT*, its class correspondents, the College or the University. By submitting to Class Notes, you acknowledge that the text is eligible to appear in print as well as on CCT Online and in archives.

Steve Martinez is also engaged! He and his fiancée will be married in 2019. (She's a Fordham grad, but, luckily, she loves Columbia, too.)

We're not totally sure how to transition to this next update, but **Michael Egley** is a Brazilian jiu-jitsu competitor training out of Team Carlson Gracie in Temecula, Calif. Michael has medaled at some of the biggest Brazilian jiu-jitsu tournaments in the world as an adult and wants to open his own marital arts school. Message or follow him on Instagram at @born2grapple.

Also in California, **Kurt Kanazawa** recently starred as Mits (a Japanese-Hawaiian boy) in Y York's WWII-dramedy *Nothing Is the Same* at the Sierra Madre Playhouse. The show, directed by Tim Dang (emeritus artistic director of East West Players), garnered a *Los Angeles Times'* Theatre Critic's Pick Top Four Shows! Kurt was especially grateful to have the Southern California branch of the Columbia Alumni Association plan an event to see the show. For our Midwestern readers, *Nothing Is the Same* will travel to Chicago for a week at the Victory Gardens Theater in August — go see it!

The play had a deep personal significance for Kurt's family, as his late grandmother, Shimeji Kanazawa, was known as "The Florence Nightingale of Hawaii," appointed to committees by Presidents Reagan, Carter and Clinton, as well as honored by the governor of Hawaii and the city of Honolulu with "Shimeji Kanazawa Day" for her efforts during the war as chief liaison between the Japanese civilians and the Martial Law Government, working for the Swedish Consulate.

Kurt also requested a shoutout to **Diana Greenwald,** who's getting married — again — this time in France (same guy, different country). Kurt will share a single twin-sized hostel bed with **Lucas Shaw, Kyle Boots** and **Jan Van Zoelen** and then parkour himself into a classic Claremont bunkbed on top of **Tim Nesmith** (wherever he may be … most likely Vienna, maybe Cannes, but probably Mongolia).

Finally, **Opal Hoyt** is still kicking it in NYC. Really, she hasn't left because that costs money, so this would be a great time to start her a GoFundMe page.

2012

Sarah Chai
sarahbchai@gmail.com

Friends, this time we truly have updates from around the globe — New York City to Lahore, Amsterdam to Antarctica!

Charlie Lopresto is excited to announce he graduated from Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine in May and will return to New York City to pursue his residency training in internal medicine at Jamaica Hospital Medical Center. Throughout the last four years of medical school, Charlie pursued his passions for research and leadership, with the roots of these passions stemming from his time at Columbia. Charlie recently finished being the national research director on the Board of Directors for the Student Osteopathic Medical Association and was a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association* for the last two years.

Additionally, he has become interested in medical policy and organized medical groups, from the local to the national level. Having gained experience in lobbying for physicians' and patients' rights at the state and local level, he plans to continue his involvement in the Medical State Society of New York and the New York State Osteopathic Medical Society; he would love to see fellow Columbia alumni who are completing their residencies in New York State join him in these organizations. He moved back to Queens in June and looks forward to reconnecting with the Columbia College alumni community in and around New York City.

Gillian Rhodes sent an update from Pakistan: "After two and half years dancing for Second Nature Dance Company in Seoul, South Korea, I'm now based in Lahore, Pakistan, for five months, performing and teaching. I recently performed with some of the top classical and contemporary artists in Pakistan, and I look forward to many more performances and workshops."

Pat Blute is advising EY Global Digital in New York. He was instrumental in putting together Ernst & Young's "Innovation Realized" conference in April. The two-day conference, held in Amsterdam, brought together a group of corporate executives, start-up CEOs and market influencers to engage in small group discussions, peer collaboration and workshop challenges.

James Rathmell and **Chuck Roberts** roared in 2018 with their first Antarctic landing on New Year's Day. The two visited the continent as part of a trip organized by students at Stanford, where James and Chuck are pursuing graduate studies.

2013

Tala Akhavan
talaakhavan@gmail.com

I hope everyone had an absolutely amazing time at Reunion 2018 and that you all loved being back on campus after five years! Who did you see, what did you do, do you have any fun stories? Share your reunion recaps in Class Notes by emailing me at talaakhavan@gmail.com. Can't wait to hear from you!

2014

Rebecca Fattell
rsf2121@columbia.edu

Happy summer, CC'14! We heard from **Chris Zombik,** who recently completed his third year at an education consulting firm in Shanghai. He gets to work closely with bright and ambitious Chinese high schoolers who are preparing to attend elite American colleges. Outside of work, Chris has been busy studying Mandarin, participating in the Shanghai Writing Workshop, helping his fellow American expats register to vote through Democrats Abroad and taking in all the diverse flavors and excitements of life in China's most dynamic city.

Hunter Coleman recently made headlines for a life-saving turn in Shreveport, La. While driving home from dinner on March 12, Hunter witnessed a tragic car accident.



Radhe Patel '15, Katie Garcia '15, Emma Yee '15 and Rachel Ngu '15 met up in Cambridge, Mass., on January 15.

Motorists had pulled over and were getting out of their cars in the dusk to view the scene, which was adjacent to a large body of water known as the "Duck Pond." Heavy rains of recent weeks had swollen the pond, and a four-door sedan had descended a steep slope and plummeted into the waterway. The car was sinking fast. Onlookers were screaming that there were three small children trapped inside the car, now almost underwater. Hunter threw off his jacket, sprinted across the street, ran down the bank and dove into the pond.

Along with four other good Samaritans, he swam 30 yards to the car, where he was able to help rescue the older female passenger, Kathy Brown, who was nearly unconscious. While choking on the freezing water, Hunter managed to swim with Brown back to shore and save her life. Before law enforcement could arrive, Hunter and the other rescuers were also able to save all the children (Brown's grandchildren, it turned out). Unfortunately, they were not able to save the driver, the mother of the three children rescued from the car and Brown's daughter.

On March 21, the five commissioners of the Louisiana Public Service Commission unanimously passed Resolution No. 2018-1, a "Resolution Commending the Heroic Actions of Hunter Coleman." On March 27, the Shreveport Fire Department and Shreveport Mayor Ollie Tyler presented Hunter to the City Council and awarded him the Citizen Life Saving Award.

2015

Kareem Carryl
kareem.carryl@columbia.edu

Hello, Class of 2015! It's hard to believe it's already summer. I don't know if it is just me, but it feels like this year is flying. Let's jump right into the news!

Rachel Ngu writes, "In January, **Emma Yee SEAS'15, Katie Garcia** and I rallied together to celebrate the birthday of our dear friend **Radhe Patel SEAS'15.** Radhe, among many other things, helped start Women of Color for Progress, a nonprofit that empowers women of color to flourish, represent and lead well. It recently celebrated its one-year anniversary, where it recognized #WomenInAction who have often advocated for those with less access. So proud and inspired by her tireless efforts to bring about a fairer and more just society!"

Jocelyn Bohn got married on May 26! We wish her the best of luck and look forward to many photos!

As always, your classmates want to hear from you! Please be sure to submit updates to Class Notes by writing me at the address at the top of the column or via the *CCT* Class Notes webform, college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note.

2016

Lily Liu-Krason
lliukrason@gmail.com

What's up, CC'16? No news this time, so let's make our Fall column overflow! Tell me about your summer adventures — what did you do, who did you see, where did you go? Send news to lliukrason@gmail.com! And don't forget that *CCT* loves photos, so if you have a photo that includes at least two College alumni, send it in for inclusion (college.columbia.edu/cct/submit_class_note_photo).

2017

Carl Yin
carl.yin@columbia.edu

Bianca Guerrero is finishing the Urban Fellows program. She says, "It has been so great — I recently worked on the mayor's expansion of Healing NYC, the initiative to reduce opioid deaths by 35 percent in five years, and I am learning more and more about homelessness in our city. I am figuring out if I'll be able to continue in City Hall or somewhere else. A big question for me is if I want to continue exploring social issues or dive into housing, the issue I'm most passionate about.

"I recently restarted a tenants' association in my building in Washington Heights. My father started one years ago that fell apart due to lack of interest, but with growing concerns about the conditions of the building and displacement I decided to restart it. Residents of 27 of 44 total apartments apartment attended, which is a great start. My goal is to get the landlord to address mold, leaky roofs and vermin in each apartment.

"I really miss how college semesters and breaks marked time, so to make up for it, I made marks of my own! I am traveling to Hawaii with fellow Truman Scholars in May and to Wyoming to go to Yellowstone in July — two places that will help me to reach my '30 new places before 30' goal."

Colin Howard TC'17 graduated in May with a master's in mathematics education and the New York State Initial Certification to teach math.

Adam Lieber saw *Black Panther* and enjoyed it.

Julian Nebreda lives and works in São Paulo, Brazil. He works for Gullane Entretenimento, a film production team.

Jeremy Cooper recently got engaged to his college sweetheart, Ellin Mitchell BC'19. He recounts, "I proposed at the end of a walk of memories, which included the John Jay patio tables, a cappella in the Broadway room, and a trip to the Pupin Observatory, the Met rooftop and Kimpton Hotel Ink48 (a hotel I appraised a few months ago). We will marry in Israel in January 2019."

Mikaella Bernstein got married on March 18 to Benjamin Apfel '18.

Whitney-Shannon Alam is a college adviser at an NYC public high school and starting a master's of social work at the NYU Silver School of Social Work in the fall.

Noah Rivkin is the mayor's aide in Newton, Mass.

Emmalina Glinskis went to Antarctica for two months for research on climate change. She documented her journey in her blog on the Columbia Earth Institute website: bit.ly/2vpmofn.

2018

Alexander Birkel and Maleeha Chida
ab4065@columbia.edu
mnc2122@columbia.edu

CCT welcomes the newest class correspondents, **Alexander Birkel** and **Maleeha Chida!** Below, they introduce themselves. Please take a moment to send them your news for future issues.

"Hi everyone! My name is **Alexander Birkel.** Some of you might know me as the guy who always posted in the Facebook group as a prospie, some of you might recognize me by my eccentric blue puffer jacket and some of you might have never heard of me at all. But starting today, I am one of two of your *CCT* class correspondents, so just when you start to forget about me, I'll be reaching out to you as a class to hear more about what you all are doing in your lives post-graduation!

"Bidding adieu to East Campus does not mean leaving the campus community forever, and that's why I, as well, as the rest of your classmates, would love to hear everything that's going on in the weeks, months and years after we throw our caps in the air. Feel free to send in all of your latest life stories to ab4065@columbia.edu and I'd be more than happy to share it with the rest of the class. Roar, Lion, Roar!"

"Congratulations, Class of 2018! My name is **Maleeha Chida.** Some of you might remember me as the person who always posted in the Class of 2018 Facebook group about student-alumni events. Well, now that we're actually alumni, you'll still be hearing from me! I will be one of two CC'18 class correspondents for *CCT.* I'll be reaching out to hear about all of your updates since graduation — work plans, travel experiences, grad school and so on.

"Feel free to drop me a line at mnc2122@columbia.edu with all of your exciting adventures! I will share them through the Class Notes section of the magazine so that we can stay connected even when we're not on Morningside Heights. I can't wait to hear from all of you!"

obituaries

1939

David W. Mason, retired teacher and camp owner, Fryeburg, Maine, on September 15, 2017. Born in New York City in 1917, Mason captained the tennis team at the College. He earned an M.A. from Teachers College and taught at the Punahou School in Hawaii, the Riverdale Country School in the Bronx, and the Fairfield and Greenwich Country Day Schools in Connecticut. Mason served in the American Field Service as an ambulance driver attached to the British Eighth Army in North Africa during WWII. He was owner/director of Camp Agawam in Raymond, Maine, and along with his wife, Peg, ran the camp for 30 years. He started the Main Idea program at Agawam in 1971, which gives more than 100 boys a free week of camping activities each summer. Mason received The 2005 Halsey Gulick Award from the Maine Youth Camping Association. He and his wife also owned and operated Agawam Kezar Ski Camp for 40 years in Center Lovell, Maine. The Fryeburg Academy Alumni Association honored Mason as outstanding non-alumnus in 2013. He was also selected for the 2017 Fryeburg Academy Hall of Excellence for being a strong supporter of many academy sporting events. Mason is survived by his wife; two sons; one daughter; five grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.



David W. Mason '39

1941

Erwin V. Alpert, retired store manager, New Haven, Conn., on January 28,

Steven P. Marcus '48, GSAS'61, Victorian-Era Scholar, Former Columbia College Dean

Steven P. Marcus '48, GSAS'61, the George Delacorte Professor Emeritus in the Humanities at the College, died in New York City on April 25, 2018, at 89. He transformed literary criticism — changing it to look at history and society — by revealing a subculture of Victorian pornography and psychoanalyzing characters in Charles Dickens' novels, and was dean of the College from 1993 to 1995.

The son of the former Adeline Gordon and Nathan Marcus, Marcus was born in New York City on December 13, 1928, and grew up in the Bronx. He attended William Howard Taft and DeWitt Clinton High Schools, graduated at 15 and won tuition-free scholarships to Harvard and Columbia. He rejected Harvard because his family could not afford the room and board. To save money while he attended Columbia, he lived at home and packed lunch.

At the College, where he majored in English literature, Marcus studied under Lionel Trilling '25, GSAS'38. He wrote a master's thesis on Henry James under the guidance of Professor Frederick W. Dupee, the eminent modernist scholar.

After brief stints teaching at Indiana University and City College of New York, Marcus won a fellowship to Cambridge University, where he conducted research on a Fulbright fellowship and published his first literary criticism, in *The Partisan Review and Commentary.* He began teaching at Columbia in 1956. After two years in the Army, mostly in Greenland, Marcus returned to Columbia to complete his 1,105-page dissertation on Dickens, which became the basis for his 1965 book, *Dickens: from Pickwick to Dombey.* He became an associate professor in 1963, a full professor of English in 1967 and the George Delacorte Professor in the Humanities in 1976. He twice was chairman of the Department of English and Comparative Literature and was also a principal investigator in the Columbia Project on Conflicts in Values and Health Care.

In 1993, Marcus was named dean of Columbia College and VP for arts and sciences by President George Rupp. As dean, Marcus was a staunch supporter of the Core Curriculum as the basis for a comprehensive education. But the dual role of dean and VP proved unwieldy. After less than two years, he resigned to return to teaching.

A specialist in 19th-century literature and culture, some of Marcus' 200 authored works are *The Other Victorians: A Study of Sexuality and Pornography in Mid-Nineteenth-Century England* (1966); *Engels, Manchester and the Working Class* (1974); *Doing Good: The Limits of Benevolence* (1978); and *Representations: Essays on Literature and Society* (1991). He was also co-editor, with Trilling, of an abridged version of Ernest Jones' three-volume biography, *The Life and Work of Sigmund Freud* (1961). "That partnership," wrote *The New York Times* in its obituary, "spurred Professor Marcus to apply a psychological prism to much of his own literary criticism." For example, in *The Other Victorians,* Marcus likened pornographic fiction to utopian fantasy — "a world of grace abounding to the chief of sinners." He called it "pornotopia." Marcus' *Freud and the Culture of Psychoanalysis: Studies in the Transition from Victorian Humanism to Modernity* (1984) challenged critics who claimed that Freud had concocted his seduction theory.

Marcus was a founder of the National Humanities Center, an independent institute operating from North Carolina since 1978 to advance studies in the field. He also was its director of planning and chairman of the executive committee of the Board of Trustees.

In 1997, the College bestowed on Marcus the Mark Van Doren Award for Teaching. He retired in 2004 as George Delacorte Professor Emeritus in the Humanities. A fellow of both the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Academy of Literary Studies, Marcus received Fulbright, American Council of Learned Societies, Guggenheim,



GUENTER KNOP

Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Rockefeller and Mellon grants.

A political liberal who was opposed to the Vietnam War, he was drawn into the so-called culture wars of the 1990s and criticized exponents of political correctness as "soft totalitarians." While expressing sympathy for the long-term goals of those advocating social change, he chastised them for what he called Orwellian humorlessness and euphemisms that threatened "the decay of language."

Marcus' first marriage ended in divorce. He married Gertrud Lenzer, a German sociologist, in 1966. She survives him, as does their son, violinist John Nathaniel Marcus, and a grandson.

— Lisa Palladino

2018. Born in New Haven, Alpert graduated from Cheshire Academy. After the College he served in the Army as part of the Yale Medical Corps based in Saipan and New Zealand. Upon returning to New Haven he lived the remainder of his life happily married to Florence Sterling Alpert and with his sons, Richard and Daniel. He was the retired manager at Sterling & Sussman Department Store. Alpert was predeceased by his son Richard and his son-in-law Eduardo Sese. He is survived by his wife, son Daniel and son-in-law Rabbi Eric Weiss.

1944

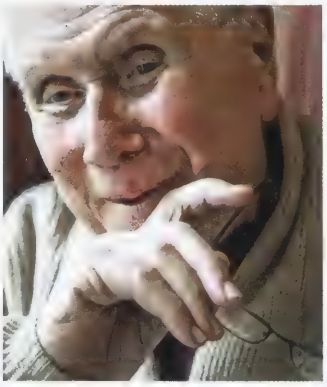
Richard J. Farber, research engineer, Floral Park, N.Y., on May 2, 2017. Farber was born in the Bronx on May 28, 1923, and graduated from Stuyvesant H.S. before going on to the College, where he was Phi Beta Kappa as well as a member of crew and the Army Signal Corps. He earned an M.Phil in 1981. Farber taught radar techniques at MIT before joining Hazeltine Research as a research engineer and rising to associate director of research. At Hazeltine, he developed and was awarded patents for advances in both the color and cable television industries. Farber was part owner and VP of Key Color Laboratories, a color photo film developing lab for commercial and professional photographers in Mineola, N.Y. He also was a leading member of Temple Emanuel (Tikvah) of New Hyde Park, N.Y., from the late 1950s on. Farber was a lifelong ham radio operator — call sign W2KXB — and an avid fisherman, tennis player, runner and sailor well into his 80s. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Elaine; children, Martin '71 and his wife, Susan, Andrew '75, BUS'81 and his wife, Rabbi Joan, and Sheryl Magaziner and her husband, Robert; seven grandchildren, including Aaron '05; and four great-grandchildren.



Richard J. Farber '44

1945

Julian B. Hyman, retired physician, Hackensack, N.J., on October 13, 2017. Born in 1925 in New York City, Hyman earned an M.D. from Albany Medical College. He served in the Korean War as a medical officer in the Navy. He then returned to NYC and began a long career practicing hematology and oncology, sharing an office with his brother, George. During his career, Hyman was chair of the Departments of Medicine at the New York Polyclinic Hospital and Saint Clare's Hospital, before joining the staff at Roosevelt Hospital. He was an avid art collector, world traveler and photographer. Hyman joined The Print Club of New York at its inception and was its president for seven years. He will be remembered by his family and friends for his optimism, generosity, humor and inclusion of people of all races and cultures. Hyman is survived by his children, Steven, Mona Rubin and Harvey, and their spouses, Barbara, Michael and Lael; and seven grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Columbia University or to the New-York Historical Society, where Hyman's photographs of New York are a part of its permanent research library.


Dr. Julian B. Hyman '45

1946

James W. Gell, ob/gyn, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., on February 2, 2018. Gell was born on April 1, 1927, and raised on Long Island. He attended Townsend Harris H.S., and graduated from the College at 18 and the University of Michigan Medical School at 22. During WWII, Gell volunteered for the Navy, and returned to active duty as a medical officer during the Korean War, 1950–52, including a year at sea as the ship physician. Gell practiced in the Detroit area for more than 30 years, later serving on the faculty of Wayne State University Medical School. For more than two decades, he cared for uninsured women as a volunteer physician at Volunteers in Medicine on Hilton Head Island, S.C., and at Mercy Place Clinic in Pontiac, Mich. He will be remembered for his great sense of humor and as an avid University of Michigan Wolverine fan, skillful piano player, fierce card and game player, and opera lover. Above all, he will be remembered as a kind and generous man. He is survived by his wife, Sallie; four children; and five grandchildren.

1949

Neil C. Sandberg, community relations professional and professor, Los Angeles, on March 10, 2018. During WWII, Sandberg was transferred by the Navy from duty in the North Pacific to undertake studies at Columbia. He graduated after the war and retained fond memories of his University experiences, including campus life, interactions with faculty and service as the Navy's student representative. The latter involved meetings with Columbia's then-president, Dwight D. Eisenhower. Sandberg was the Western Region Director for the American Jewish Committee for three decades and was the founding director of AJC's Asia Pacific Institute in 1989. He was the longest-serving director of the Martin Gang Institute for Intergroup Relations, a shared venture of AJC Los Angeles and Loyola Marymount University. He served from 1968 to 2008, and was honored by the institute in 2013 for leadership in promoting mutual understanding between religious and ethnic communities. Sandberg also was an adjunct professor in sociology at LMU. He is survived by his wife, Mary; son, Curtis, and his wife, Silvia; and a grandson.

1951

Bruno J. Giletti, retired professor, Oakland, Calif., on January 29, 2018. Born on December 6, 1929, to Rita Baltera Giletti and John Giletti in New York City, he attended Stuyvesant H.S. and obtained his bachelor's, master's and doctorate from Columbia (SEAS'52, GSAS'54, GSAS'57), maintaining school friendships through the years. Giletti was a professor of geological sciences at Brown from 1960 to 1996. A frequent contributor to major scientific journals in the field of geochemistry, his scientific curiosity led him to Oxford and Paris in his early years. Part of his research was in using radioactive isotopes to measure the ages of rocks in the Rocky Mountains, New England and Scotland. Giletti was known for his amiability, vocabulary, cooking and all-around good sense of humor. He enjoyed playing bridge, reading mystery novels and traveling, especially in Italy and France. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Janet Orvis Chapple; daughters Ann and Laura Giletti, from his first marriage, to Dody Hannah; stepdaughters, Nancy, Beth and Karen Chapple; and six grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601.

1954

John A. Dauer Jr., leather salesman and antiques dealer, Wilkesboro, N.C., on August 13, 2017. Born on Staten Island, N.Y., after the College, Dauer joined his father as second-generation owner of the John A. Dauer Leather Co., which has supplied the material needs of manufacturers, craftsmen and artists throughout the country for more than 70 years. Dauer continued working in his North Carolina warehouse three weeks prior to his passing, and often referred to himself as "The World's Oldest Sheepskin Salesman." He also directed the restoration and preservation of numerous historic houses, including houses in the Massachusetts cities of Heath, Plainfield, Hatfield and Florence, and was a dealer and collector of antiques. His vast and varied collections reflect his deep appreciation of American folk artisanship and craft. Dauer appreciated planting gardens (by their Latin names), well-prepared meals, creative banter, good humor, bad puns and steadfast friends. He was predeceased by his

former wife, Rosamond Dauer, and is survived by his sons Matthew and Christian; daughters-in-law, Kristen and Catherine; and three grandsons. Memorial contributions may be made to The National Trust for Historic Preservation, 2600 Virginia Ave. N.W., Ste 1100, Washington, DC 20037; savingplaces.org.

Herbert H. Frommer, dentist and professor emeritus, New York City and Westhampton, N.Y., on February 1, 2018. Born in 1933 in Manhattan to Benjamin and Ethel Frommer, and raised in Queens, Frommer graduated from Far Rockaway H.S.; the College, where he rowed for the varsity crew; and the Dental School (1957). An accomplished practitioner for 40 years, for many decades he taught at the NYU College of Dentistry. He received the Arnold & Marie Schwartz Outstanding Teacher Award and the NYU Distinguished Teaching Award at Founders Day in 1996. A man of honesty, integrity and a spirit of loving kindness, his sunny disposition and cheerful sense of humor will be missed by all. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Eleanor Goldman Frommer; children, Ross and Daniel; three grandchildren; brothers Paul and Alan; sisters-in-law Judith Goldman Frommer, Elizabeth Appell Frommer and Jean Goldman; and daughters-in-law, Connie Dong and Jacqueline Frommer. Memorial contributions may be made to the NYU College of Dentistry, the Park Avenue Synagogue or the Parkinson's Foundation.

Herbert G. Hagerty, retired Foreign Service officer, Washington, D.C., on December 7, 2017. Born in 1932, Hagerty grew up in East Orange, N.J. He earned a B.A. in history and government from the College and an M.A. in South Asia regional studies in 1956 from Penn. He was also a "Distinguished Graduate" of the National War College in 1976. Hagerty was a Navy briefing officer 1957–61 and an intelligence analyst 1961–65. He retired from the Navy Reserve in 1971 as a lieutenant commander. Hagerty joined the Foreign Service in 1965 and served as a political officer in India, Norway, London and Pakistan. For courageous performance of his duties the day of a 1979 embassy attack in Pakistan, he earned a Group Award for Valor. In 1981, he earned a Superior Honor Award for "sustained high performance" during the period following the attack. In his last overseas assignment, Hagerty was the deputy chief of mission in Colombo, Sri Lanka. He retired in 1990 with the rank of minister-counselor in the Senior Foreign Service. He later taught professional writing at the Foreign Service Institute and consulted with government agencies. Hagerty was predeceased by his wife, Ann, and brother Dennis. He is survived by his brother Richard; sons from a previous marriage, Sean and Devin; stepdaughters, Jill Satin, Katy Satin and Marta Satin-Smith; a granddaughter; a niece; a nephew; and all their families.

Eric Salzman, composer and former music critic, Brooklyn, N.Y., and East Quogue, N.Y., on November 12, 2017. Salzman earned a B.A. in music and, in 1956, an M.F.A., from Princeton. He then studied for two years on a Fulbright grant in Rome. In 1966, he received a Ford Foundation grant for music critics and spent a year covering the major music festivals in Europe. His works were performed widely in Europe by leading musicians. From 1966 to 1968 Salzman taught at Queens College. He authored books on 20th-century music and on the new music theater;

Lawrence K. Grossman '52, Head of PBS and NBC News

Lawrence K. Grossman '52, the president of PBS responsible for turning *The MacNeil/Lehrer Report* into the first hour-long nightly newscast on any network — and perhaps best known for standing up to outside pressure not to air *Death of a Princess,* a film based on a true story about a Saudi princess who had been publicly beheaded for adultery — and former president of NBC News, died on March 23, 2018, in Westport, Conn. He was 86.

Grossman was born Lawrence Kugelmass on June 21, 1931, in Brooklyn, N.Y. After his father died, he was adopted by his mother's second husband, Nathan Grossman. He attended Midwood H.S., where a journalism teacher opened his mind to the world of communications. At the College, he studied English and political science, then went on to Harvard Law, where he met his future wife, Alberta "Boots" Nevler, who was attending Radcliffe.

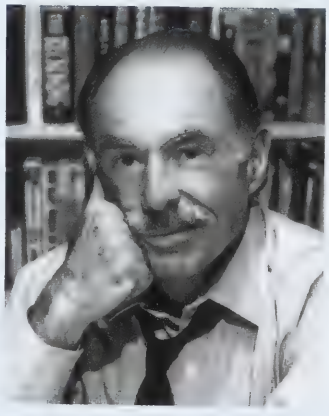
Grossman left Harvard after a year and joined *Look* magazine in the promotions department. He joined the advertising department at CBS in 1956, then moved to NBC in 1962, becoming the network's VP of advertising. There, he met Grant Tinker, who was then in programming (nearly two decades later, their friendship led Tinker to consider only Grossman for the presidency of NBC News). Grossman ran his own advertising, marketing and communications firm from 1966 to 1976.

PBS, one of his firm's clients, hired him as its president in 1976, and he moved to Washington, D.C. Grossman transformed PBS over eight years — the network became the first to deliver its programming by satellite; he introduced the programs *Live From Lincoln Center* and concerts from the White House and the Kennedy Center, and approved production of a 13-part series on the Vietnam War; and in 1983, doubled the length of the network's signature news program, *The MacNeil/Lehrer Report* (now *PBS NewsHour*).

In 1980, Grossman refused to bow to pressure that PBS not air *Death of a Princess.* Mobil Oil, a major PBS underwriter, was among the movie's protesters. Some members of Congress spoke out. And Warren M. Christopher, the Secretary of State, relayed a letter of concern from the Saudi Ambassador to the United States. Grossman's stance "was the single most important thing he did at PBS," Richard Wald '52, GSAS'53, now the Fred W. Friendly Professor Emeritus of Professional Practice in Media and Society and special lecturer in journalism at the Journalism School and a former NBC News president, told *The New York Times.* "He created a sense in PBS that they were doing important work, and it caused PBS to stand up straighter. It was enormously important to how PBS conducted itself thereafter."

Grossman was hired by NBC in late 1983, and after General Electric's acquisition of RCA, NBC's parent company, in 1986, he fell out of favor with his new bosses. He was dismissed in 1988.

After leaving NBC, Grossman taught at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government and in 1993 became president of Horizons TV, a onetime challenger to PBS and C-SPAN. He wrote *The Electronic Republic: Reshaping Democracy in the Information Age* (1995), about how interactive telecommunications of that era — faxed petitions, email lobbying and 900-number polls — were providing citizens



JERRY BAUER / VIKING

with more direct participation in politics and making them the "new fourth estate." In the late 1990s, he and former PBS chairman Newton Minow launched Digital Promise, a nonprofit that receives federal and private funding to use digital technologies to improve education.

Grossman is survived by his wife; daughters, Susan Grossman NU'78, Caroline Grossman and Jennifer Grossman Peltz; brother, Daniel; six grandchildren, including Sarah Grossman-Greene '08; and two great-grandchildren.

— Lisa Palladino

co-founded the American Music Theater Festival in Philadelphia, the Free Music Store in NYC and a music theater group, Quog, that developed techniques in expanded musical and dramatic modes of expression; and co-composed several music theater works. He was composer-in-residence at the Center for Contemporary Opera. He and his wife, Lorna, traveled to more than 20 countries to see birds. Salzman served on the board of the South Fork Natural History Museum & Nature Center in Bridgehampton, N.Y., conducting bird walks for them, for the Brooklyn Bird Club and for The Linnaean Society. Memorial contributions may be made to Quog. Salzman is survived by his wife; daughters, Stephanie Salzman (Carbonnier) and Eva Salzman; and a granddaughter.

1956

Carl W. Norden, retired physician, Philadelphia, on August 26, 2017. Norden graduated cum laude from



Dr. Carl W. Norden '56

Harvard Medical School in 1960. He was head of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Cooper University Hospital in Camden, N.J., 1994–2000. During his career, Norden served in the U.S. Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control; was chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Montefiore Hospital in Pittsburgh; and was a member of the faculty at Rochester University School of Medicine. He authored or co-authored close to 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals. Norden was a caring physician, superb clinician, researcher and mentor, and trained many medical students, housestaff and fellows in internal medicine and infectious diseases. He also conducted pioneering studies in osteomyelitis. His textbook, *Infections in Bones and Joints* (1994), co-authored with William J. Gillespie and Sydney Nade, is the first comprehensive reference on all aspects of bone and joint infections. Norden is survived by his wife, Joyce Galpern Norden; sons, Daniel and Samuel; stepchildren, Steve, Pam, and Emily Galpern; and seven grandchildren.

1957

Walter Braun, retired scientist, Germantown, Md., on April 3, 2018. Braun was born in the Bronx and raised in New Hyde Park, N.Y., graduating from Mineola H.S. in 1953. After graduating from the College, he went on to Brooklyn Poly Tech (now NYU) and earned a Ph.D. in chemistry. He worked for many years at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Washington, D.C., with distinction and honors; he received a gold medal from the Department of Commerce for distinguished achievement in the federal service with the citation, "For outstanding contributions to modern gas kinetics through the development of flash photolysis resonance fluorescence and studies on laser augmented reactions." Among the many activities Braun enjoyed, his favorites were traveling, playing tennis and tinkering with his computer. He leaves behind many family and friends in the United States, Germany and Brazil.

Richard D. Gooder, professor, Cambridge, U.K., on October 30, 2017. After the College, Gooder went to Clare College, Cambridge, on a Kellett Fellowship, earning a second B.A. in 1959. He stayed on to earn a Ph.D. and become a fellow of Clare College. Gooder's professional life was largely spent at Cambridge University as a member of the English faculty. He was a founding editor of the literary journal *The Cambridge Quarterly.* Gooder married in 1960 and is survived by his wife; three children; and eight grandchildren.

1959

Bruce M. Stave, professor emeritus, Coventry, Conn., on December 2, 2017. Stave was born on May 17, 1937, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He earned an M.A. in 1961 from GSAS and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh as a Mellon fellow. He spent the majority of his career at the University of Connecticut, starting in 1970 after being a Fulbright professor in India. At UConn, he chaired the history department and led the oral history program. Stave was one of the first faculty-designated Board of Trustees Distinguished Professors. His publications included 11 authored or edited books. In addition to his Fulbright in India, he was a Fulbright in Australia, New Zealand and the Philippines in 1977, and at Peking University 1984–85. In Coventry, Conn., he chaired the Democratic Town Committee. With his wife, Sondra Astor Stave, he founded the Northeastern chapter of the Connecticut Civil Liberties Union. Stave is survived by his wife of 60 years; son, Channing '92, and his wife, Sara; two grandchildren; brother and sister-in-law, Howard and Renee Stave; and Sara's parents, John and Suzanne Schloss. Memorial contributions may be made to the UConn Foundation for the Stave Prize in Recent American History.

1962

Robert A. Kohn, retired diplomat, Washington, D.C., on December 8, 2017. Kohn was born and raised in New York City and earned a master's from The George Washington University. Before retiring, Kohn was one of the most senior Officers of the U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, with more than 42 years of Foreign Service experience with the Department of Commerce, Department of State, White House Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and the United Nations. Assignments included Minister for Commercial Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in France and Germany; Commercial Counselor in The Netherlands, Spain and Greece; Commercial Attaché in Peru and in Mexico; and Diplomat-in-Residence and U.S. Department of Commerce Chairman at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University, in Washington, D.C. Kohn was concurrently an adjunct professor of international business at Georgetown. He also served as Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for the Western Hemisphere in the Executive Office of the President, was a U.S. delegate to the United Nations, served on the U.S. Delegation to the Organization of American States and lectured extensively on trade liberalization throughout Latin America. Assignments with the State Department included Officer-in-Charge of Congressional Affairs; Officer-in-Charge of Refugee and Migration Affairs; and Political Officer in Australia, Brazil, and Peru. He leaves his wife of 50 years, Rose; sons, Robert and Aaron; and four grandchildren.

1964

Michael L. Barnett, retired dental research consultant and retired periodontist, Princeton, N.J., on November 22, 2017. Barnett was born on October 27, 1943, in Brooklyn, N.Y., and graduated from the Dental School in 1967. He did postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Washington and Harvard. Barnett served as a captain in the Army during the Vietnam War. He was an assistant and/or associate professor at the New Jersey Dental School at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, SUNY Buffalo, and the University of Louisville, School of Dentistry. Barnett chaired the Department of Dentistry at the Morristown Medical Center, where he directed the dental residency program and developed a hospital-based program for the treatment of developmentally disabled children and adults. He retired from Pfizer Consumer Healthcare as the senior director of dental affairs and oral technology development and main-

Obituary Submission Guidelines

Columbia College Today welcomes obituaries for College alumni. Deaths are noted in the next available issue in the "Other Deaths Reported" box. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear. Word limit is 200; text may be edited for length, clarity and style at the editors' discretion. Click "Contact Us" at college.columbia.edu/cct, or mail materials to Obituaries Editor, *Columbia College Today*, Columbia Alumni Center, 622 W. 113th St., MC 4530, 4th Fl., New York, NY 10025.

tained a consulting practice. Barnett received numerous grants and frequently spoke and published research in the dental field, and was involved in numerous professional and cultural organizations. A lifelong French horn player, he was a music lover, supporter of the arts and a world traveler known for his dry sense of humor and incredible smile. He is survived by many cousins. Memorial contributions may be made to the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra or the Princeton HealthCare System Foundation.

1965

William L. Weinstock, retired attorney, Brooklyn, N.Y., on June 12, 2017. Weinstock graduated from NYU Law School in 1968. He spent most of his career as an attorney with the New York State Insurance Fund, rising to the position of managing attorney in 1995. He retired in 2001. After leaving the fund he represented insurance companies and self-insured employers as defense counsel in workers' compensation proceedings and was happy to make his extensive knowledge available to former colleagues.

1971

Elliott S. Frank, retired computer scientist, Las Vegas, on October 14, 2017. At Columbia, Frank arranged remote engineering setups for WKCR during the Vietnam War protests. He later implemented some of the earliest back-office database management systems for most of the major banks in New York City before heading out to Silicon Valley, where he worked for Amdahl Corp. and several dot.com firms.

1972

Jonathan M. Gutman, endodontist, Tucson, Ariz., on January 12, 2018. A longtime resident of Mamaroneck, N.Y., and a graduate of Boston University's School of Dentistry and the Boston University Specialty Training Program in endodontics under Herbert Schilder, Gutman served patients in New Rochelle, N.Y., and Tucson. He was deeply dedicated to his family, and took great joy in all of their accomplishments. He is survived by his wife, Renee; children, Benjamin, and Rachel R. Light; and three grandchildren. Memorial contributions may be made to Congregation Chofetz Chayim in Tucson.

1987

Gary L. Rempe II, entrepreneur, Albuquerque, N.M., on September 24, 2017. Rempe was born in North Platte, Neb., on July 22, 1964, and grew up in northern New York. He graduated from the College with a degree in history. As a student, he played varsity football, studied guitar and initiated a lifelong passion for kayaking by joining the Columbia Kayak Club. Following college, Rempe wrote an award-winning health and fitness book, and cover stories for *Good Housekeeping, McCall's* and *Shape* magazines; started a rock band; and founded several companies, including Zummit Labs, a software company using artificial intelligence to improve the mobile commerce experience. More recently, he and his wife, Susan Beamis Rempe '87, co-founded Memzyme, a company focused on clean energy. Rempe will be remembered for his quick wit, sense of humor and big laugh; business and community leadership; intelligence; loyalty to family and friends; love of history and music; and passion for outdoor adventures and all manner of games. He is survived by his wife, Susan; children, Caroline, Gary and his wife, Molly, Greg '16 and Clara; mother; and three siblings.

1993

Rachel M. Mintz, photographer and artist, New York City, on January 10, 2018. Born in Washington, D.C., Mintz was educated at the College and NYU's Stern School of Business. A talented photographer and artist, she combined her Jewish heritage with a love for the creative arts. In addition, she was a gifted writer, adventurous traveler and an avid sports fan. Mintz's boundless passion and enthusiasm for life perfectly exemplified the biblical verse "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might." She is survived by her parents, Harriet and Benjamin; brothers, Adam and his wife, Sharon, and Jared; and nieces and nephews.

— Lisa Palladino

OTHER DEATHS REPORTED

Columbia College Today also has learned of the following deaths. Complete obituaries will be published in an upcoming issue, pending receipt of information. Due to the volume of obituaries that *CCT* receives, it may take several issues for the complete obituary to appear.

1944 **George L. DeCoster,** Key West, Fla., on March 5, 2018.

1948 **Henry L. King,** retired attorney, University Trustees chair emeritus, New York City, on June 18, 2018.

Joseph A. Montimurro, retired ob/gyn, Venice, Fla., on April 11, 2018.

Seth Rubenstein, attorney, Brooklyn, N.Y., on April 16, 2018.

Murray Strober, retired internist and cardiologist, Passaic, N.J., on March 17, 2018.

1950 **Gregory P. Williams,** Chesterfield, Va., on February 5, 2018.

1951 **Stanley G.Y. Lee,** retired military servicemember, Lakewood, Wash., on October 9, 2016.

1952 **Donald N. Scofield,** retired Baptist minister, Penney Farms, Fla., on April 18, 2018.

1955 **Robert E. Sparrow,** retired attorney, Hollis Hills, N.Y., on June 9, 2018.

1956 **Peter M. Mayer,** publisher, New York City, on May 11, 2018.

Walter F. McKeon Jr., Hicksville, N.Y., on December 25, 2016.

1957 **Charles A. Straniero,** retired ob/gyn, Mendham, N.J., on October 27, 2017.

1958 **E. Michael Pakenham,** editor and wine columnist, Wellsville, Pa., on May 9, 2018.

1959 **Robert S. Stone,** attorney, Mount Kisco, N.Y., on April 30, 2018.

1961 **William N. Binderman,** attorney, Philadelphia, on February 15, 2018.

Thomas J. Gochberg, real estate financier, New York City, on May 24, 2018.

1965 **Jay N. Woodworth,** economist, New Providence, N.J., on June 15, 2018.

1966 **Eugene J. Leff,** retired attorney, Philadelphia, on April 12, 2018.

1968 **Gregory F.T. Winn,** scholar, lecturer, civil servant, diplomat, author, Naples, Fla., on April 19, 2018.

1971 **Eli A. Rubenstein,** attorney, Newton Center, Mass., on January 27, 2018.

1975 **Jose A. Martinez,** attorney, Cincinnati, Ohio, on April 14, 2018.

the*last*word

A Tearful Goodbye

The Class of 2018's president looks back on his last days — and a treasured space — at Columbia

By John Philippe Avendano '18

It all began with 40s on 40 in April. All it took was classmates blasting music, singing and yelling "Class of 2018!" on Low Steps slightly past midnight for it to dawn on me that my time as a student at Columbia was not only finite, but it was also rapidly evaporating. I only had 40 days to relish my existence in this place I'd called home for the last four years. But something was strange: Upon this realization, I felt little emotion. It was easy to recognize the lack of time I had left, how post-grad life wouldn't be nearly the same, how many of my friends would be moving to places anywhere but close to New York City — but somehow, I felt *nothing*.

I thought I would cry so many times in the weeks leading up to graduation — I thought it would make things easier on me, emotionally, when the day itself came. But I never did. With everything I had to do (last-minute get-togethers with friends, several formal events and finals), I had wanted to sit down, breathe and reflect — but there were very few places I could go on campus to do just that.

So, in my last two weeks at Columbia, I made a ledge on campus my home. As you ascend the steps to Low Library and turn either left or right, you can step out onto an elevated platform that protrudes above the rest of campus, overlooking Low Plaza and giving you a beautiful view of Butler, John Jay and Carman. Either alone or with friends, my visits to that ledge grew more and more frequent in those last few weeks.



EILEEN BARROSO

From the ledge, I could see people walking briskly about campus, headphones on, destinations and goals in mind. The typical Columbia student: driven, motivated, nonstop. I can't say I was any different in my time as a student. "Study for this exam, head to this practice, go to this party," were thoughts that'd go through my mind every day — no stopping, no breathing, no thinking. Just doing. Impulsivity and spontaneity were attributes I'd only gotten a taste of from friends who knew how to best define the phrase *carpe diem*, reminding me that I should savor moments of peace — that our time at Columbia was undoubtedly short. To them, I remain eternally grateful.

The ledge was a hidden gem on our campus — it just took me four years to realize it. I could go there and the sounds of laughter, chatter and police sirens wailing outside our campus gates became nothing but buzz that faded away in the background of my introspection. It was a place I could go to think about the present, and a place I could go to deeply reflect on the past. It was a microcosm of Columbia.

On the ledge, I'd think about the friends I'd made and the memories we shared. The classes that I loved, or hated and often didn't attend. The times I confessed my feelings, fell in love, had my heart broken and had my heart become slightly fuller. I'd sit there and just soak it all in, not worrying about what loomed on the horizon.

I thought the ledge would be the place I'd ultimately cry; it wasn't. I almost cried on Class Day, when I stepped to the podium and saw a sea of friendly faces, many of whom I knew I might not see for a while after that day. But it actually happened two days after Commencement, when it finally dawned on me that, come August, I wouldn't be returning to my cozy bubble on the Upper West Side. That I wouldn't easily be able to step onto campus and just give everybody — acquaintances and friends — big hugs, with feelings of excitement that a new school year was set to begin.

I cried for the future and the fact that, as a high school senior, I never would've thought this place would come to occupy such a dear place in my heart. I cried for goodbyes I never gave, friends who cried on my shoulder in tough times and for those very same friends who allowed me to cry on their shoulders in even tougher times. I cried that I didn't take more moments in my time as a student to just sit and reflect — just like I did on that ledge.

I cried because I realized that every incredible friend I made at Columbia and every memory I shared with them were worth crying for. And, at the end of the day, the number of tears I shed makes me certain that I'm pretty lucky.

GIFTS TO THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE FUND supported

Audrey's internship with the Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist.

In addition to internship stipends for students like Audrey, the Columbia College Fund supports financial aid, student life and the Core Curriculum.





"THANKS TO AN INTERNSHIP STIPEND MADE POSSIBLE BY THE COLUMBIA COLLEGE FUND, I gained **crucial experience** in the field of archaeology that is impossible to replicate in the classroom. **Generous donations** made each and every one of my experiences in Wyoming possible."

— Audrey Andrews CC'18

COLUMBIA COLLEGE FUND

CORE TO COMMENCEMENT
COLUMBIA COLLEGE

TO MAKE YOUR GIFT VISIT
college.givenow.columbia.edu.

CCT | Columbia College Today

Columbia University
622 W. 113th St., MC 4530
New York, NY 10025

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 724
Burl. VT 05401

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE CORE CURRICULUM 1919–2019

CoreCentennial@Columbia.edu